

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

PROPOSED FURNACE EXPANSION TO BORBET SA, NELSON MANDELA BAY MUNICIPALITY, EASTERN CAPE

CEN Integrated Environmental Management Unit

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PURPOSE OF THE BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

The purpose of this Background Information Document (BID) is to provide stakeholders with additional information, the opportunity to register as Interested and Affected Parties in the environmental assessment process and to obtain initial comments on the **Proposed Furnace Expansion to BORBET SA**, Perseverance, Ward 30, Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality, Eastern Cape Province.

The Applicant, **BORBET SA (Pty) Ltd**, will be applying for an Environmental Authorisation (EA) from the Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEDEAT) for the **Proposed Furnace Expansion to BORBET SA**.

The activity(s) identified require a **Basic Assessment** process to be undertaken in terms of the amended Government Notice Regulation (GNR) No. 327 (7 April 2017) of **the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations 2014** published in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) as amended (NEMA).

The Applicant will also apply for an **amendment to the Atmospheric Emissions Licence** as required for air quality listed activities (Category 4, Sub-category 4.4: Secondary Aluminium Production) in terms of the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act (Act No. 39 of 2004). The application for amendment to the AEL will be submitted to the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality.

If you would like to participate in the process please register yourself and/or your organization as an Interested and Affected Party. Submit issues that you feel need to be addressed in the assessment by completing the response form or in a letter or by email to:

CEN IEM Unit

Dr Mike Cohen / Lucille Behrens

Post: 36 River Road, Walmer, Port Elizabeth, 6070

Fax: 086 504 2549

Email: steenbok@aerosat.co.za / lucille@environmentcen.co.za

**REGISTRATION AS AN INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTY AND
ALL COMMENTS MUST BE SUBMITTED WITHIN 30 DAYS OF THE
DATE OF THIS NOTICE.**

DATE OF NOTICE – 30 March 2021

CLOSING DATE FOR REGISTRATION – 3 May 2021

1. THE PROPOSED PROJECT

1.1. Introduction

CEN IEM Unit has been appointed by Lethabo Air Quality Specialists (Pty) Ltd (LAQS) on behalf of BORBET South Africa to undertake the EIA process as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) for the proposed Expansion to BORBET SA.

The applicant for an Environmental Authorisation will be BORBET SA (Pty) Ltd.

1.2. Proposed Activity

BORBET SA in Port Elizabeth manufactures aluminium alloy car wheels and have an existing Atmospheric Emissions Licence (AEL).

BORBET SA currently have five (5) LPG-fired furnaces, three (3) of which are used to melt aluminium ingots, with added alloying materials as per their clients' requirements, and two (2) are used to melt swarf chips (referred to as chip furnaces). Swarf is the general term for the aluminium cuttings and shavings that are generated when the wheels are machined, holes are drilled, etc., after casting. The swarf is dried and chipped before being melted. BORBET SA only remelt their own swarf and no alloying materials are added to these furnaces.

BORBET SA is proposing to add a 3rd chip furnace for a total of 6 furnaces, which requires an amendment to the AEL. The production capacity of the aluminium alloy car wheels will not be increased.

1.3. Locality

The BORBET SA manufacturing facility is located on Erf 1095 Redhouse, Ward 30, Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality, Eastern Cape.

Access to the property is obtained at 11 Kohler Road, Perseverance, Gqeberha (Port Elizabeth).

The central co-ordinates of the property is 33°50'36.58"S, 25°33'15.41"E, and the SG 21 digit Code is C05900310000109500000.

Refer to **Figure 1: Locality Map**.



Figure 1: Locality Map

2. ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PROCESS

2.1. National Environmental Management Act and EIA Regulations (2014)

The Minister of Environmental Affairs has in terms of Sections 24 and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act (Act No. 107 of 1998, NEMA), as amended, listed the activities that require an environmental assessment.

The purpose of the environmental assessment is to identify potential impacts associated with the development and to recommend measures to avoid or reduce adverse impacts and enhance beneficial or positive impacts.

The following activities are subject to a **Basic Assessment** process in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations 2014, made under Section 24(5) of NEMA and amended in Government Notice No. 326 and 327 (7 April 2017). The competent authority is the Eastern Cape Provincial Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEDEAT).

Listed Activity	Description
<p>GNR 327 – Listing Notice 1 Activity 34: The expansion of existing facilities or infrastructure for any process or activity where such expansion will result in the need for a permit or licence or an amended permit or licence in terms of national or provincial legislation governing the release of emissions, effluent or pollution, excluding—</p> <p>(i) where the facility, infrastructure, process or activity is included in the list of waste management activities published in terms of section 19 of the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 (Act No. 59 of 2008) in which case the National Environmental Management: Waste Act, 2008 applies;</p> <p>(ii) the expansion of existing facilities or infrastructure for the treatment of effluent, wastewater, polluted water or sewage where the capacity will be increased by less than 15 000 cubic metres per day; or</p> <p>(iii) the expansion is directly related to aquaculture facilities or infrastructure where the wastewater discharge capacity will be increased by 50 cubic meters or less per day;</p>	<p>This activity is applicable as the addition of a chip furnace requires an amendment to the existing AEL.</p>

2.2. Identified Issues / Impacts

As we progress with the environmental investigations we will identify potentially beneficial and adverse impacts. All identified issues will be subjected to an assessment to determine if they are significant and if they require additional investigation. Possible mitigation measures will also be provided to reduce the anticipated adverse impacts. Based on our preliminary investigations we have identified the following issues:

- ✿ Air quality impacts

2.3. Description of Tasks within the Basic Assessment Process

- ✱ Public participation starts announcing the proposed project, and registration of Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs). Newspaper advertisements and site notices are placed, and notifications are also sent to identified stakeholders. – We are here in the process. Refer to Figure 2.
- ✱ An application for an Environmental Authorisation will be submitted to the competent authority, namely the DEDEAT for this project.
- ✱ A Basic Assessment Report is compiled that considers inputs from stakeholders, I&APs and specialists, in terms of:
 - potential impacts of the activity on the environment;
 - whether the impacts can be mitigated, and if so to what extent; and,
 - whether there are any other significant issues / impacts to be investigated.
- ✱ Once the Basic Assessment Report is compiled, it is then submitted for a 30 day review period to registered I&APs and stakeholders. This enables you to comment on the Draft Basic Assessment Report and accompanying Draft Environmental Management Programme.
- ✱ Your comments are incorporated and the reports are then finalised.
- ✱ These final reports are submitted to the DEDEAT for consideration.
- ✱ The DEDEAT reviews the documents and decides whether the project can proceed or not, their decision is known as an Environmental Authorisation (EA).
- ✱ A copy of the EA is made available to you to consider, along with the reasons for the decision made. If you disagree with the decision, you are provided with information on how to lodge an appeal.

3. ATMOSPHERIC EMISSIONS LICENCE PROCESS

3.1. National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act and Listed Activities

The Applicant will also apply for an **amendment to the Atmospheric Emissions Licence** as required for air quality listed activities in terms of the National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act (Act No. 39 of 2004). The application for amendment to the AEL will be submitted to the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality.

Listed Activity	Description
Category 4, Sub-category 4.4: Secondary Aluminium Production: <i>Secondary aluminium production and alloying through the application of heat (excluding metal recovery)</i>	This activity is applicable as the addition of a chip furnace requires an amendment to the existing AEL.

4. HOW DO YOU PARTICIPATE

Every proposed project and/or development has the potential to significantly affect the natural and social environments, both at, as well as surrounding the proposed development site. While some of the impacts will have an adverse impact on the environment others will have a beneficial impact.

For this reason it is imperative that you as an Interested and/or Affected Party (I&AP) register, comment on the proposed development and raise issues or concerns that you feel needs to be considered during the proposed planning and implementation process.

This can be done by completing the attached registration form and submitting it to the contact details as reflected thereon.

Upon submission of the registration form to CEN IEM Unit, you will be registered as an I&AP, and be included on an I&APs database which will ensure that you receive future project information and notifications regarding reports available for public comment.

If you intend to register as an I&AP or forward comments regarding the proposed development, please submit your completed registration form to CEN IEM Unit by **3 May 2021.**

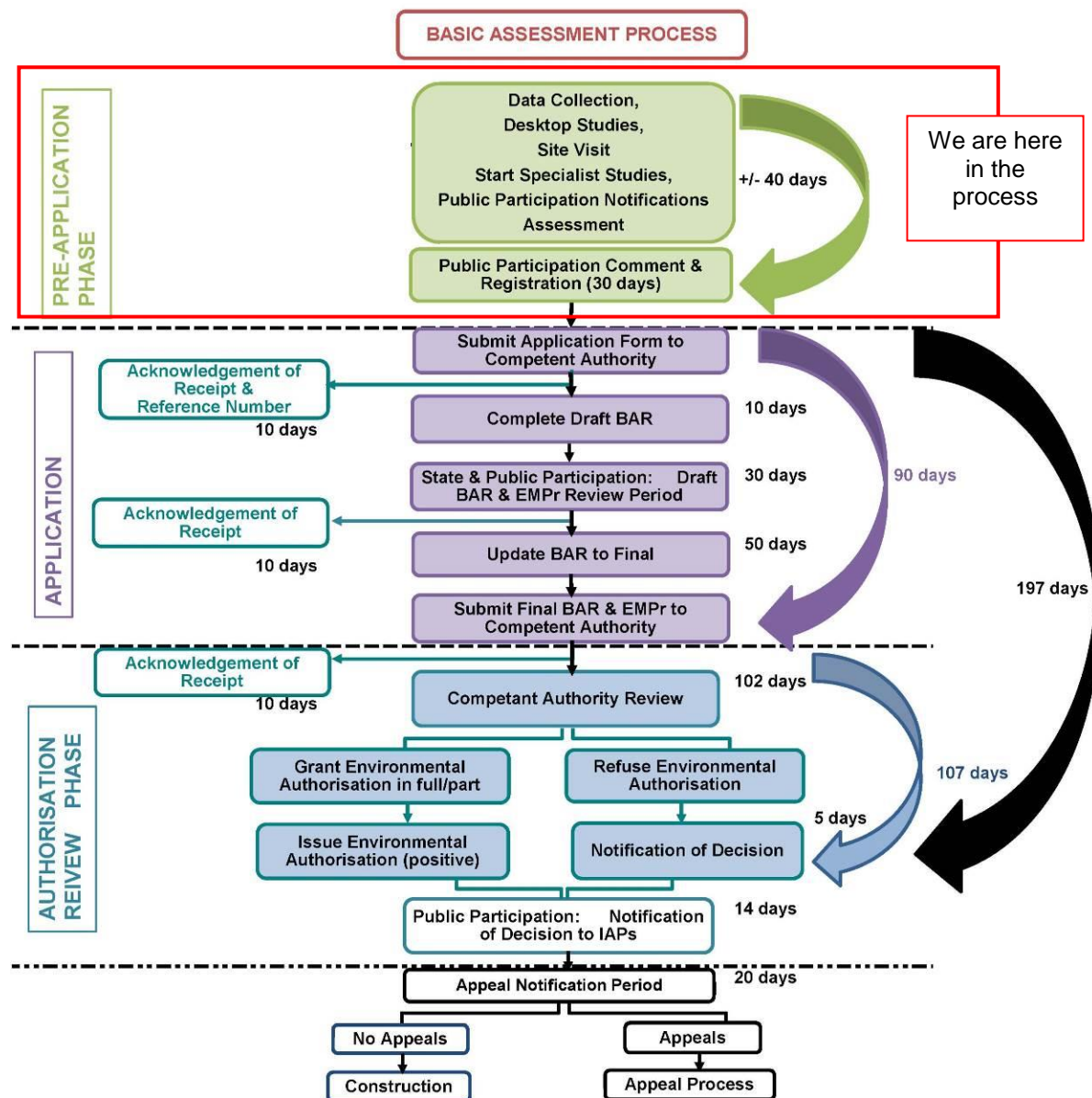


Figure 2: Basic Assessment Process, EIA Regulations 2014



CEN IEM UNIT

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REGISTRATION / COMMENT SHEET

PROPOSED FURNACE EXPANSION TO BORBET SA, NELSON MANDELA BAY MUNICIPALITY, EASTERN CAPE

Notification: 30 March 2021

I wish to register as an Interested and / or Affected Party and request that the following issues receive attention during the assessment process

Closing Date for Comments: 3 May 2021

Name of Respondent: _____

Organisation / Company: _____

Address: _____

Fax Number: _____

Tel Number: _____

Email: _____

Please use additional sheets as necessary

Signature: _____

Date: _____