BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT

PRE-APPLICATION NOTICE

PROPOSED EXPANSION TO AUTOCAST NON FERROUS, 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 and to obtain comments on the proposed activities for **Autocast Non Ferrous**, Struandale Industrial, in the Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality, Eastern Cape.

The Applicant, **Autocast Non Ferrous** will be applying for an **Environmental Authorisation** in terms of the **Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014** as amended, for proposed expansion activities. This application will be done in terms of activities listed in Government Notice R.327 of 7 April 2017, published in terms of Section 24(5) of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998, as amended. The proposed activities require that a **Basic Assessment** process be undertaken and the relevant authority is the **Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEDEAT).**

The Applicant will also apply for an **amendment to the Atmospheric Emissions Licence (AEL)** as required for Category 4 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**.

If you would like to participate in the process, please register yourself and/or your organization as an Interested and Affected Party. In participating in the EIA process, your consent is provided for your information to be added to the Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP) Database as required by the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended. Submit written comments that you feel need to be addressed by completing the response form or in a letter or by email to:

CEN IEM Unit
Dr Mike Cohen / Mrs Lucille Behrens
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 – 11 November 2026

CLOSING DATE FOR COMMENTS – 11 December 2026

1. THE PROPOSED PROJECT

1.1. Introduction

CEN IEM Unit has been appointed by Lethabo Air Quality Specialists (Pty) Ltd (LAQS) on behalf of Autocast South Africa (Pty) Ltd, trading as Autocast Non Ferrous, to undertake the EIA process as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) for the proposed activities for Autocast Non Ferrous.

The applicant for an Environmental Authorisation will be Autocast Non Ferrous.

1.2. Proposed Activity

Autocast Non Ferrous is a Secondary Aluminium and Metal Recovery Facility which manufactures automotive parts, e.g. cylinder heads, oil pans. The process undertaken consists of:

a) Receiving - Scrap aluminium and swarf is received in bulk bags. The scrap aluminium and swarf is inspected to ensure the correct quality is received and stored in an enclosed store. Alloying compounds are received and stored in an enclosed store.
b) Drying - Purchased and in-house produced swarf has a thin cutting compound layer. The bulk of cutting compounds are removed through draining. After draining the swarf is treated in a centrifuge which further reduces the cutting compound. The 99% dry swarf is further treated in a rotary kiln which provides indirect heat to evaporate the balance of the cutting compounds. The emissions are extracted from the drum and passed through the burner which acts as both heat source and an afterburner.
c) Charging and Melting - Raw materials consisting of scrap aluminium and alloying compounds are charged in the melting hearth of the furnaces.
d) Casting - Molten aluminium is ladled into die and left to cool.
e) Sand Recovery - Once cooled, the sand die is removed from the product. Sand is recovered for re-use.
f) Finishing - Cast products are trimmed of excess metal and finished. The resultant swarf is collected for re-use.
g) Quality Check - Machined products pass through a quality check stage prior to assembly. Rejected products are returned to the foundry for re-melting.
h) Assembly Process - All components are assembled into complete products that meet manufacturer specifications.

Autocast Non Ferrous acquired the facility / foundry in 1990 and additional sections acquired in 1991 and 2000.

Autocast Non Ferrous has an existing Atmospheric Emissions Licence (AEL) which will require an amendment for the proposed expansion / changes to the existing facility. The current AEL provides for a maximum and design production capacity of 2200 tons per annum and is being amended to cater for 4500 tons per annum. Additional amendments relate to an increase in raw materials and dross.

1.3. Locality

Autocast Non Ferrous is located on Erven 126 and 60 New Brighton, at the corner of Spondo Road and Struanway, in Struandale Industrial SP1 area, Ward 25, Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality, Eastern Cape. Refer to **Figure 1**.

Access to the property is obtained from Spondo Road, Struandale Industrial, Gqeberha (Port Elizabeth).

The central geographic co-ordinates of the property are: 33°52'55.72"S, 25°33'55.34"E and the SG 21 digit Codes are:

Erf / Farm Portion	SG 21 digit Code
Erf 126 New Brighton	C05900260000012600000
Erf 60 New Brighton	C05900260000006000000

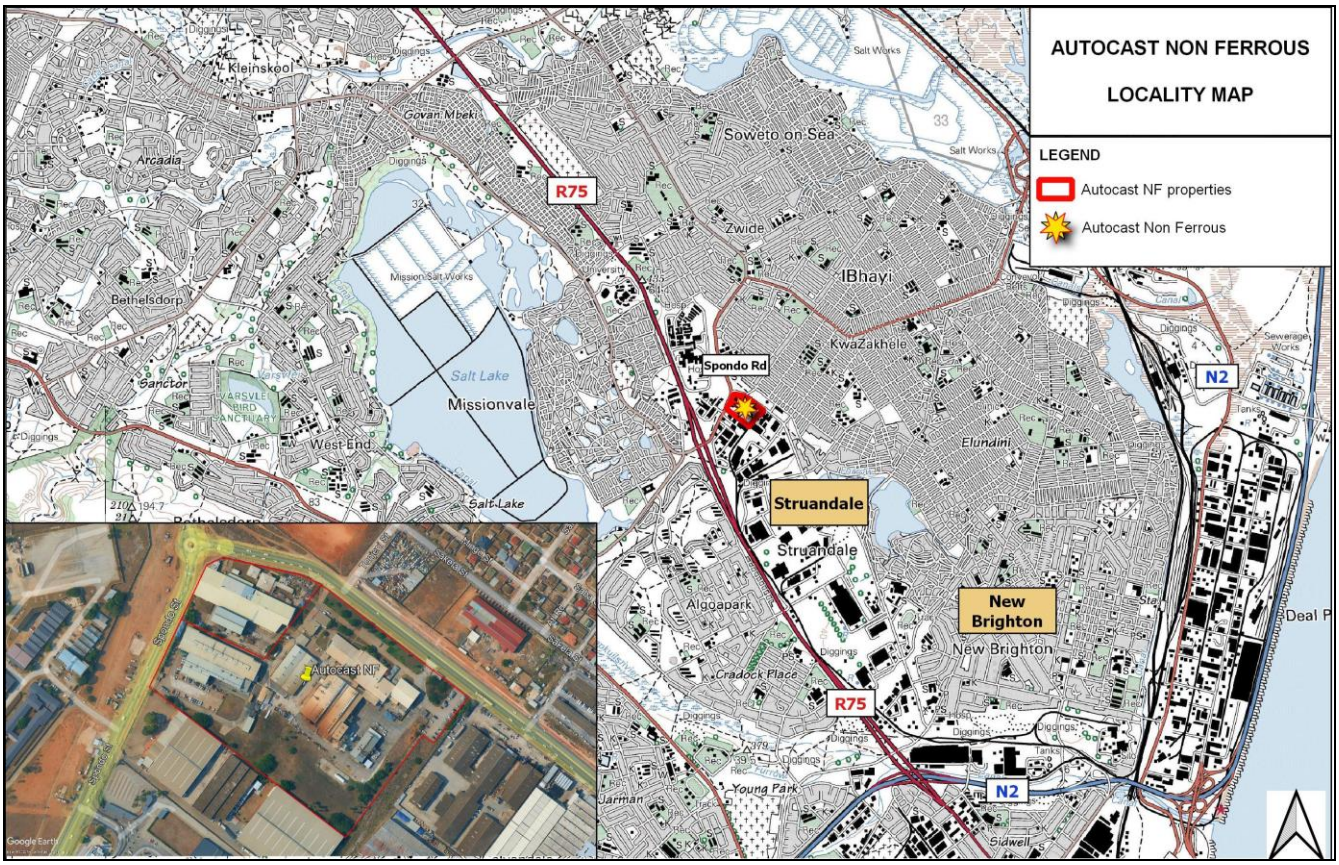


Figure 1: Locality Map

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 R.327, R325, R.324 of 7 April 2017. Additional listed activities may be identified as the process is undertaken. The competent authority is the Eastern Cape Provincial **Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEDEAT**).

Listed Activity	Description
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— (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; (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 (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.	This activity is applicable for the proposed expansion activities that relate to changes to furnaces, increases in materials and production capacity, which requires an amendment to the existing AEL.

2.2. National Environmental Management: Air Quality Act and 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 relevant air quality listed activities relate to:

Category of Listed Activity	Sub-Category of Listed Activity	Listed Activity Name	Description of the Listed Activity
4	4.2	Combustion Installations	Combustion installations not used primarily for steam raising and electricity generation
4	4.4	Secondary aluminium production	Secondary aluminium production and alloying through the application of heat (excluding metal recovery)
4	4.10	Foundries	Production and/or casting of iron, iron ores, steel or ferro-alloys, including the cleaning of castings and handling of casting mould materials
4	4.21	Metal recovery	The recovery of metal from any form of scrap material by the application of heat

The application for amendment to the AEL will be submitted to the **Nelson Mandela Bay Municipality**.

3. 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, together with the DFFE Screening Tool, we have identified the following specialist assessments:

- Air quality impacts

4. DESCRIPTION OF TASKS IN THE EIA 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.

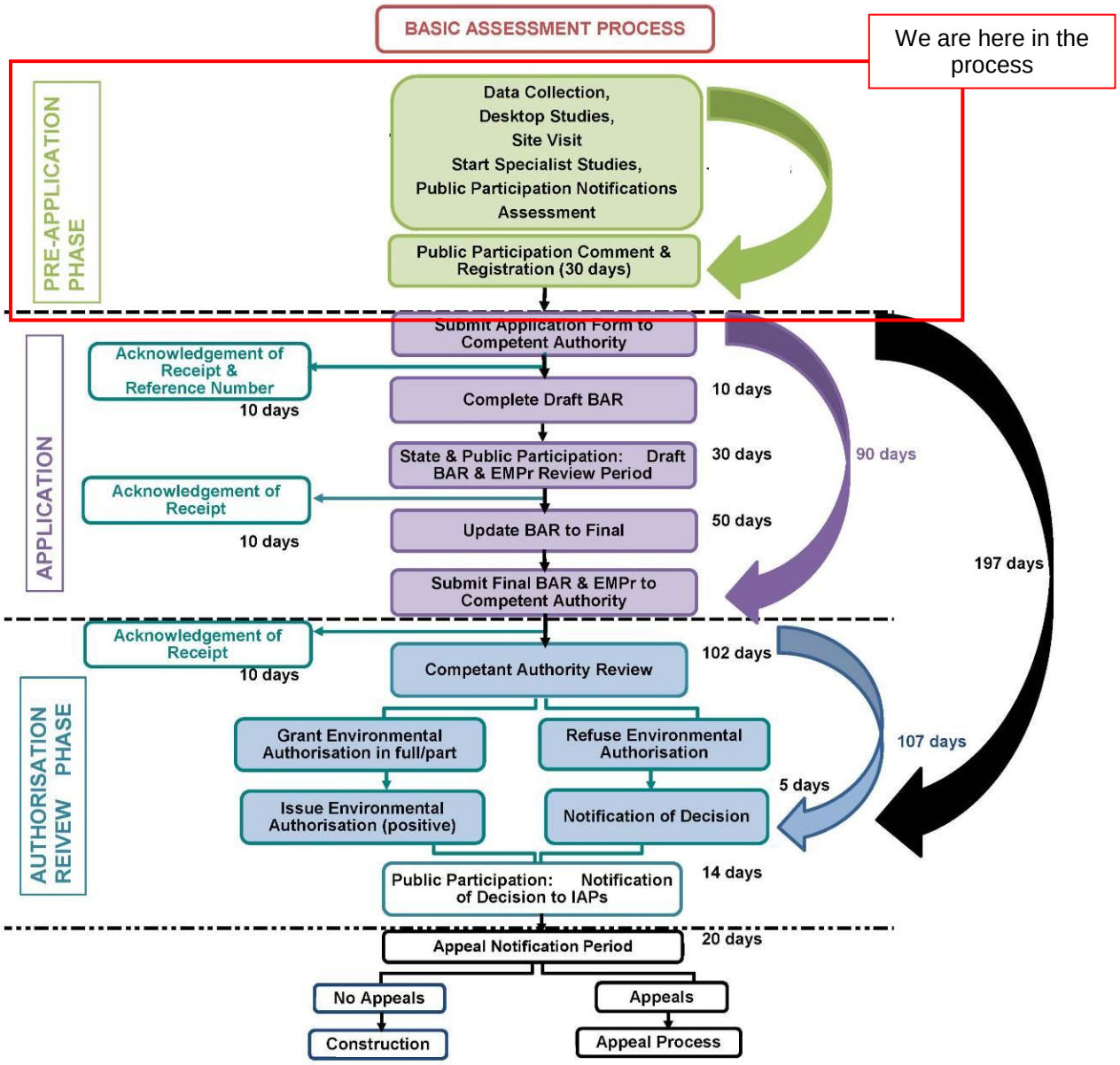


Figure 2: Basic Assessment Process, EIA Regulations 2014

5. HOW DO YOU PARTICIPATE

Register as an Interested and/or Affected Party (I&AP) in order to comment on the proposed application and raise issues or concerns that you feel needs to be considered during the process.

Complete the attached registration form and submit it to the contact details as reflected. 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 notifications.

Regulation 42 of the EIA Regulations, 2014 as amended, requires a register of interested and affected parties to be opened and maintained throughout an EIA process. This register must contain the names, contact details and addresses of (a) all persons who, as a consequence of the public participation process conducted, have submitted written comments or attended meetings; (b) all persons who have requested in writing, for their names to be placed on the register.

In participating in the EIA process, your consent is provided for your personal information (names, contact details and addresses) to be added to the Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP) Database as required by the EIA Regulations, 2014.

Please note the I&AP database is required to be included in any draft or final EIA reports, however CEN IEM Unit will endeavour to not make your personal information (contact details or addresses) available in reports that are provided in the public domain.

If a commenting party has any objection to his or her name, or the name of the represented company / organisation being publicly available such objection is to be highlighted as part of the comments submitted.

CEN IEM Unit will maintain the I&AP database until the end of the EIA Process, and will not wilfully or intentionally distribute this information to a 3rd party.

In certain circumstances, e.g. appeals of Environmental Authorisations, CEN IEM Unit may be required to provide the I&AP database to the Applicant on closure of the EIA Process.

Please note if you do not want to be included in the I&AP database, please advise us in order for your details to be removed. Otherwise it is deemed that you consent for your details to be included, in terms of the Protection of Personal Information Act (No. 4 of 2013 (POPIA).

If you intend to register as an I&AP or forward comments regarding the proposed application, please submit your completed registration form to CEN IEM Unit by 11 December 2026.

CEN IEM UNIT

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

REGISTRATION / COMMENT SHEET

PROPOSED EXPANSION TO AUTOCAST NON FERROUS, NELSON MANDELA BAY MUNICIPALITY, EASTERN CAPE

Date of Notice: 11 November 2026

I wish to register as an Interested and / or Affected Party and request that the following issues receive attention during the assessment process.
In participating in the EIA process, my consent is provided for my personal information (names, contact details and addresses) to be added to the Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP) Database as required by the EIA Regulations, 2014.
If a commenting party has any objection to his or her name, or the name of the represented company / organisation being publicly available such objection is to be highlighted as part of the comments submitted.

Closing Date for Comments: 11 December 2026

Name of Respondent: _____

Organisation / Company: _____

Address: _____

Fax Number: _____

Tel Number: _____

Email: _____

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Please use additional sheets as necessary

Signature: _____ Date: _____