

## ANNEXURE 10: NEWS REPORTS IN THE PRINT MEDIA

### Zululand Observer story following Public Meeting on 16 September 2009

Ronelle Ramsamy



**MetroGis Director - Dawie van Vuuren addresses a focus group workshop in the City of uMhlathuze on Thursday as part of the public participation process towards the formation of an Environmental Management Framework for the Richards Bay Port and IDZ**

The City of uMhlathuze will be equipped with a new proactive environmental management decision-making tool next year to help guide environmental decisions about future developments. This as the City, in conjunction with the KZN Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs and Rural Development, recently received the green light for the formation of an Environmental Management Framework (EMF) for the Richards Bay Port and Industrial Development Zone (IDZ). With the City constantly facing sensitive environmental and development pressures, it is hoped the EMF will act as a support mechanism to inform and guide decision makers and town planners.

'The EMF is an instrument for collecting existing information of an area.

'The purpose of the current workshops will be to explore the state of the environment desired by the people who live and work in Richards Bay,' said Rod Bulman of Phelamanga Projects. 'On Wednesday we met with the Dube Tribal Authority to obtain vital information from the local communities. 'We are trying to put together the EMF in a user-friendly format, which will be accessible to as many people as possible.'

Opportunities

Bulman said the EMF would identify potential environmental risks, opportunities for development and sensitive areas that require special attention. 'Many people regard environmental consultants as people who want to stop development.' But the EMF will provide a platform on which decisions can be made. 'The City will now be able to assess future EIA applications more clearly. 'It is hoped the EMF can show that in certain areas in Richards Bay, it is certainly unnecessary to do another EIA and there may be areas where an EIA must be conducted,' added Bulman.

Director of MetroGis, Dawie van Vuuren, said the Status Quo Report would be released by the end of the month, while the EMF would be finalised by March next year. 'EMFs cannot be a blueprint for development,

but can highlight the consequences of a potential development. 'The City of uMhlatuze has been planned well with lots of open vegetated spaces.

'It is a pretty picture even though there is a huge industrial area. We want to preserve some of that character. 'The Port of Richards Bay is also a strategic asset of importance for South Africa at large.

## Zululand Observer story published following Focus Group meetings: 15 October 2009

Ronelle Ramsamy



Rod Bulman of Phelamanga Projects

Can the social and ecological systems within the City of uMhlatuze cope with any further growth? That is the burning question as natural resources in the area are in limited supply and the challenge of trying to meet human needs while staying within safe limits are enormous. So says Rod Bulman of Phelamanga Projects, as progress is made on the Environmental Management Framework (EMF) for the Richards Bay Port Expansion Area and the Industrial Development Zone. Initiated by the City of uMhlatuze in conjunction with the KZN Department of Agriculture, Environmental Affairs and Rural Development, the latest draft of the Status Quo Report will be released before the end of the year. According to Bulman, the report emphasises how Richards Bay's geographic location and the pressures exerted by economic growth have degraded the natural environment over a short time span. 'The report emphasises the tremendous progress and rapid economic growth achieved in Richards Bay and its potential as an investment destination. 'While many believe the economic system can cope with the global economic crisis, there is serious concern the opposite may be true for the social and ecological systems in the face of further growth. 'The impression is that the existing pressures may have already pushed some subsystems over the 'thresholds of sustainability'. 'The current economic growth path is placing unbearable pressures on the social and ecological subsystems,' explained Bulman.

### Migration

With Richards Bay's population growth-rate higher than the total provincial rate, migration to the city was also expected to continue. This is increasing the demand for housing, which cannot be accommodated within the existing urban area,' added Bulman. 'This could mean that the green spaces that buffer the residential areas from the industrial area may have to be sacrificed, with negative consequences. 'Despite some progress, poverty levels remain very high in the area and there are huge inequities in income distribution. 'As a consequence, many people in the area are coping with diseases, insecurity of land tenure and high levels of illiteracy. 'Many are dependent on the local natural resource base for subsistence.'

### Pollution

The report has also revealed that the entire population is still vulnerable to air pollution health risks. 'The report highlights that industrial and related activities in Richards Bay have fully used up its air quality capacity. 'It is suggested that to stay within 'air quality limits', no more air pollution activities should be allowed in the area.' Referring to water resources, Bulman said, 'The urban, industrial and mining sectors in Richards Bay are already using the local water supply to the limit of its capacity.'

## ANNEXURE 11: QUESTIONNAIRES

### Standard (English) questionnaire



### DESIRED STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

The Environmental Management Framework that is being prepared to the Richards Bay Port Expansion and Industrial Development Zone (EMF) has entered the next stage. In this stage the consultants are compiling a "Desired State of the Environment Report". This will be based on the scientific studies already undertake. However it is also very important to get an idea of what the residents of Richards Bay desire from the environment. For that reason we are asking for your opinion using the simple questionnaire below.

1. How much do you rely on natural resources for your livelihood? Please tick the appropriate box.

	✓
Not at all	
Some	
A lot	

Please give details

2. Which natural resources are important to you and what would you like to see preserved / maintained?  
 (eg: open spaces, air quality, areas around the port and IDZ, flora and fauna areas / breeding grounds etc)

Please give details


3. How important is the development of Richards Bay Port and the IDZ to you? Please tick the appropriate box.

	✓
Not at all	
Some	
A lot	

Please give details

4. The aspects listed below are considered important and may have to be "traded off" against each other. Please rate each these aspects in order of importance for you. Place a tick in the box that shows the rating you give to that aspect.

Aspect	Very important	Important	Not important
Low rate increases			
More industry			
More open space			
More jobs			
Access to water bodies			
Reduced pollution			

5. Any other comments / concerns?

When you have completed the questionnaire please will you send it to:

**Phelamanga Projects**  
*By post*  
**Suite 175, Postnet X6**  
**Cascades 3202**

*By fax*  
**086 504 2212**

*By email*  
**claudia@phelamanga.co.za**

isiZulu questionnaire



**INHLOLOVO NGOKUDINGWA YIMVELO NOMPHEKATHI**

Inhlangano ehlanganiselwe ukuphathwa kwemvelo (EMF) elungiselelwe ukwandiswa kwesikhumulo nokuthuthukiswa komphakathi kanye nemvelo phecelezi (IDZ) isingene kwelinye ikhasi. Kulesisigaba abaluleki baqoqela ndawonye behlola uvo” ngokudingwa isizwe”. Lokhu kuzoncika ezifundweni zochwepheshe noma ososayensi esezivele ziqalile. Nomakunjalo kubaluleke kakhulu ukuzwa nokuthola uvo noma umbono ngokudingwa abahlali baseMhlathuze (Richards Bay) kwimvelo. Ngalesosizathu sicela umbono wakho ngokuphendula lemibuzwana yenhlolovo engezansi.

1. Uthembele kangakanani ezitshalweni nakwimvelo ekuziphiliseni kwakho. Sicela ukhethe impendulo ngayinye ebhokisini.

	✓
Akukaze	
Kancane	
Kakhulu	

Sicela unikeze amaphuzu ngokukhethile ngenhla

2. Yiziphi izitshalo noma ezemvelo ezibalulekile kuwe kanti yini ongathanda ukuyibona igciniwe? (isibonelo: Njengendawo evulekile, umoya osezingeni, izindawo ezakhele esikhumulweni kanye nezokuthuthukiswa komphakathi/IDZ, kanye nezindawo zokulima, njalonjalo)

Sicela unikeze amaphuzu noma imininingwane


3. Kubaluleke kangakanani ukuthuthukiswa komhlathuze kanye nokuthuthukiswa komphakathi kuwe? Sicela ukhethe impendulo ngayinye ebhokisini

	✓
Akukaze	
Kancane	
Kakhulu	

Sicela unikeze amaphuzu ngokukhethile ngenhla.

4. Amaphuzu abhalwe ngezansi athathwa njengabalulekile nokungahle ashintshwe amanye kwamanye. Sicela ukale iphuzu ngalinye ngokubaluleka kwalo kuwe. Beka umaka ebhokisini ukutshengisa isikalo ngokwephuzu lakho nokubaluleka.

Iphuzu	Kubaluleke Kakhulu	Kubalulekile	Akubalulekile
Isikalo esincane Kakhulu			
Intuthuko Kakhulu			
Ukuvuleka kwendawo Eningi			
Imisebenzi Eminingi			
Ukuvumeleka kwamanzi emzimbeni			
Ukwehla komoya			

5. Ikhona yini eminye imibono nokungaba yinkathazo?

Uma usuqedile imibuzo nhlobo sicela uthumele ku:

**Phelamanga Projects**

*Ngeposi*  
**Suite 175, Postnet X6  
Cascades 3202**

*Ngesikahlamezi*  
**086 504 2212**

*Ngesihambiso*  
**claudia@phelamanga.co.za**

## Agriculture questionnaire



### DESIRED STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

The Environmental Management Framework that is being prepared for the Richards Bay Port Expansion and Industrial Development Zone (EMF) has entered the next stage. In this stage the consultants are compiling a "Desired State of the Environment Report". This is based on the scientific studies already undertaken. However, it will be very useful to get an idea of what the agricultural community in an around Richards Bay desire from the environment.

This is particularly important in view of the long-term plans being developed by the authorities, notably for expansion of the port and industry which will eventually require use of much of the land either side of the John Ross Highway up to the N3. Our analysis shows that this is high yield agricultural land, currently utilised for commercial sugar cane. Conservation of this resource and land use has a high priority in terms of current government strategy. In addition the port expansion plans proposes that part of the land in question is included in an environmental conservation corridor as an off-set (in compensation) for the loss of other environmental resources.

We would find it very helpful if you could give us your views using the simple questionnaire below.

1. How important is the retention of the land in question for agriculture, given the availability of other land for sugar cane cultivation in the adjacent areas? Please tick the appropriate box.

	✓
Not at all	
Some	
A lot	

Please give details

2. Which natural resources are important for advancing your interests in the area. (eg: open spaces, air quality, areas around the port and IDZ, flora and fauna areas / breeding grounds etc)

Please give details


3. How important is the development of Richards Bay Port and the IDZ to you? Please tick the appropriate box.

	✓
Not at all	
Some	
A lot	

Please give details

4. The aspects listed below are considered important and may have to be "traded off" against each other. Please rate each these aspects in order of importance for you. Place a tick in the box that shows the rating you give to that aspect.

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