

Proposed Expansion of the Existing Iron Ore Terminal at the Port of Saldanha

Background Information for *PUBLIC PARTICIPATION*



Project Introduction and Background

Transnet SOC Limited proposes to expand the Saldanha Port iron ore infrastructure and operations, to increase South Africa's iron ore export capacity. This proposal is supported by the national strategy of the government infrastructure development drive.

The proposed Port expansion forms part of an overall project to increase the throughput capacity of the Sishen-Saldanha iron ore corridor from 60 to 88 million tons per year/annum (Mtpa).

National Context

During his State of the Nation Address on 9 February 2012 President Jacob Zuma invited the nation for the year 2012 and beyond "to join government in a massive infrastructure development drive". He announced a Market Demand Strategy of Transnet, which entails an investment over the next seven years of 300 billion Rand in capital projects - mainly for rail and port projects in the country.

In 2012 the South African government adopted a National Infrastructure Plan that aims to transform the economic landscape and simultaneously create jobs. The Strategic Infrastructure Plan consists of 18 Strategic Integrated Projects (SIPs). This proposed Transnet project, which aims to increase South Africa's capacity to export more iron ore to world markets, falls under **SIP5**.

The three main project components of the Overall Expansion Project include:

1. **Mine-side Ore Loading**
2. **Iron Ore Rail**
3. **Port Iron Ore Terminal**

This document focuses on the expansion of the Port Iron Ore Terminal.

GIBB (Pty) Ltd has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner to conduct the Environmental Impact Assessment for the proposed project. GIBB, on behalf of Transnet, therefore invites all Interested and Affected Parties to participate and comment constructively in the EIA.

Project Context

South Africa has extensive iron ore mines in the Sishen/Postmasburg areas. Mined iron ore is transported from these mines via an 860 km railway line to the Port of Saldanha, where most of it is loaded on ships for export. (A small portion feeds the Saldanha Steel Works.) As part of SIP 5 Transnet proposes the expansion of this iron ore export corridor including the Port.

SIP 5: Saldanha - Northern Cape Development Corridor:

Develop the Saldanha - Northern Cape linked region in an integrated manner through rail and port expansion, back-of-port industrial capacity and strengthening maritime support capacity.

Refer to Page 12 for your opportunities to participate.

