

### **Aim of this Document**

The aim of this Background Information Document is to provide stakeholders with information about the development of an LPG Facility and the start of the Scoping Phase of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

You are invited to raise issues and concerns that you have about the project. The aim of the Scoping Phase of the EIA is to identify potential positive and negative environmental and social impacts that will be investigated during the EIA.

A Scoping Report and Environmental Impact Report (EIR), along with your comments, will be compiled during this process and submitted to the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning

(DEA&DP) who will decide whether or not to authorise the development.

Please direct your comments to Linda Slabber of Environmental Resources Management (ERM).  
Tel: 021 702 9100 Fax: 021 701 7900  
Email: linda.slabber@erm.com  
Postal address: Postnet Suite 90, Private Bag X12, Tokai, 7966  
Please register as an interested and affected party (I&AP) or provide your comments by 13 December 2010

Please clearly state the DEA&DP and ERM reference numbers on all correspondence, as indicated at the bottom of the page.

### **Background Information**

Sunrise Energy (Pty) Ltd propose to develop a Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) storage facility adjacent to the Port of Saldanha on the West Coast, Western Cape Province. Ilitha Projects has been retained to provide Project Management, Engineering and Construction Management Services. ERM Southern Africa (Pty) Ltd has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioners (EAP) to undertake the EIA.

The proposed bulk LPG importation facility includes a marine and a terrestrial component comprising the following: The marine component would include a system for off-loading the LPG and the terrestrial component includes mounded horizontal pressure storage tanks, associated equipment with road and rail loading gantries.



Figure 1. Proposed LPG Facility Locality (Modified from Google Earth)

**What is LPG?**

Liquid petroleum gas (LPG) is primarily a gaseous fuel consisting predominantly of propane (C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>8</sub>) and butane (C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>10</sub>) which are blended to specification. These gases can be liquefied easily and are stored as a liquid in high pressure cylinders. LPG is used for heating purposes for cooking, space heating, water heating, ignition and welding applications.

**Project description**

**1) On-shore LPG Storage Facility**

LPG will be stored in pressurised cylinders or bullets and the storage facility will be mounded predominantly for safety reasons (see Figure 2).



Figure 2. Mounded LPG Facility (Source:Fabtech)

**2) Off-shore Marine Component**

An off-shore marine loading system will be required to transfer the LPG from tankers to the on-shore facility. Seven marine off-shore alternatives will be considered during the Scoping Phase (see Page 3). These options include jetties and conventional or multiple buoy mooring systems (see Figure 3).

**3) Pipeline to on-shore Facility**

Negotiations are currently underway with the Transnet Port Authority (TNPA) to secure the right to use the current SEF crude oil servitude for the LPG pipeline from the CBM to the on-shore facility.

**4) Rail and Road access**

The site will be accessed by road via the R599 and it is proposed that a rail line link be constructed to the existing rail line leading to and from the Port of Saldanha.

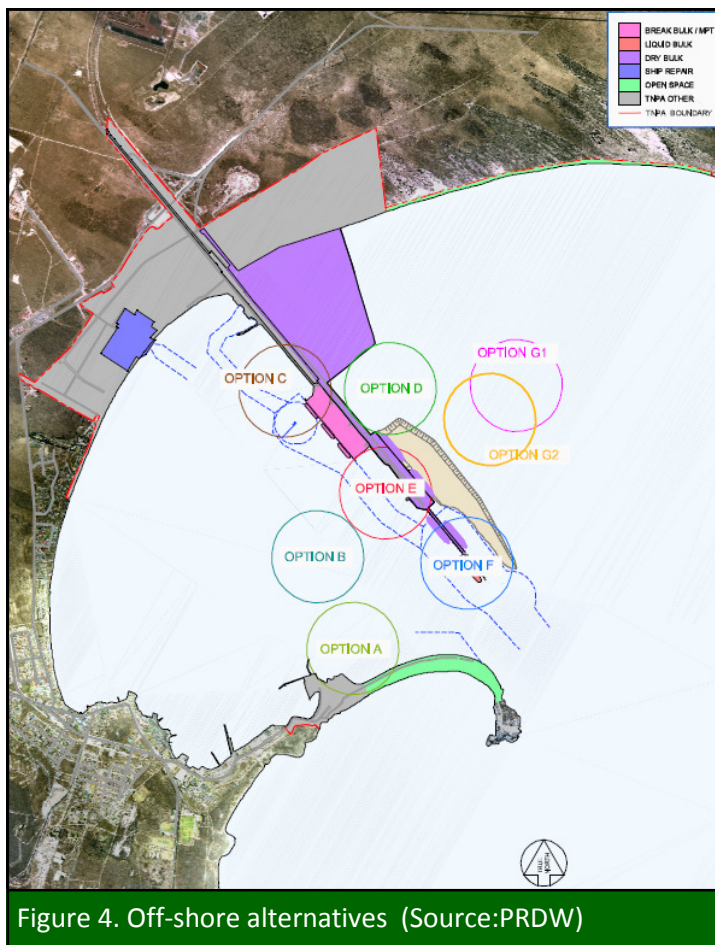


Figure 3. Example off-shore single buoy (Source:Bluewater Shipping BV)

## Consideration of Alternatives

### Alternative Marine Based Sites

Seven options have been identified for the siting of the off-shore component including jetties, conventional buoy moorings and fixed tower terminals. The proposed jetty structure incorporate a loading platform with access to the platform confined to pedestrians (via a walkway). The conventional buoy mooring systems are used to moor tankers temporarily while cargo offloading operations are carried out. A fixed tower mooring system comprises an anchored tower which is used to moor the vessel and houses the end of the pipeline. The marine based options will be screened in the Scoping process based on environmental, technical and financial criteria.



### Alternative Land Based Sites

The ArcelorMittal property adjacent to the Port of Saldanha was identified as a suitable location for the proposed facility based on proximity to the port. The alternative site sub-divisions and layout will be considered during the Scoping phase and the preferred sub-division and layout will be chosen based on environmental constraints such as vegetation and cultural heritage aspects such as palaeontology.

## Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Process

Under the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) (Act No. 107 of 1998) , as amended, an EIA is required to be undertaken for the development of the LPG facility. ERM is the independent practitioner that is completing the Scoping Report and EIA Report (EIR) for the project.

The Scoping Report will be made available for public comment and will include a Plan of Study for the EIA. The EIA will assess the likely positive and negative impacts of the project. It will include a draft Environmental Management Plan (EMP) which will describe the plans to be put in place to manage these impacts. The EIR and EMP will also be made available for public comment before it is submitted to the DEA&DP for decision making.

### Public Participation Process

The EIA process has been initiated with the submission of an application to DEA&DP (see Figure 5). The first public participation activity is the initial public meeting on 17 November 2010.

The details of the public meeting are as follows:

**Date: 17 November 2010**  
**Venue: Blue Bay Lodge, Henry Wicht Street, Saldanha**  
**Time: 5:00pm for 5:30pm**

Stakeholders are welcome to register as I&APs and submit comments related to the project for now until the close of the initial commenting period on **13 December 2010**.

The Draft Scoping Report will be released for public comment and another public meeting will be convened in January 2011.

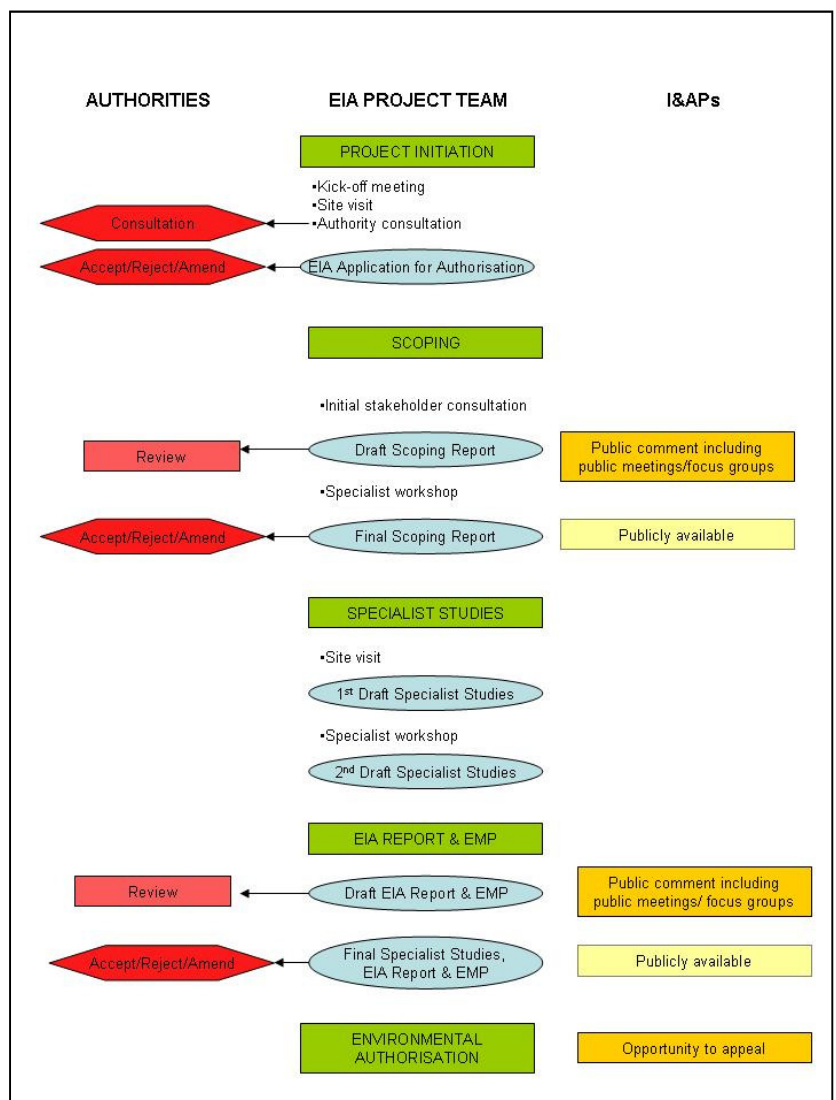


Figure 5. The EIA Process

### **How Can You Be Involved?**

The Scoping Report will be made available for public comment and will include a Plan of Study for the EIA. The EIA will assess the likely positive and negative impacts of the project. It will include a draft Environmental Management Plan which will describe the plans to be put in place to manage these impacts. The EIA Report (EIR) and EMP will also be made available for public comment before it is submitted to the DEA for decision making.

Your participation and contribution is a key part of the EIA process and it is important that ERM receives your comments. If you register as a stakeholder you will be kept informed throughout the process which will allow you to comment on the Draft Scoping and EIA Reports.

Please post or fax this comment sheet to the address below by 13 December 2010 so that we can take your comments into consideration during the compilation of the Draft Scoping Report.

Please clearly state the following DEA&DP and ERM Reference number on all correspondence.

Please fill in your details

Name:	Organisation:
Telephone:	Position:
Cell phone:	Email:
Address:	

**Please send this form to the following address:**

Linda Slabber  
Environmental Resources Management  
Tel: 021 702 9100  
Fax: 021 701 7900  
Email: linda.slabber@erm.com  
Postal address: Postnet Suite 90, Private Bag X12, Tokai  
7966

**It would be useful if you could answer the questions below but please feel free to provide any comments you would like to raise. Please continue on additional paper if required.**

1. What are the primary concerns faced by you/ your community/ your organisation with regards to the proposed LPG project?

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2. Are you in favour of or against the proposed project? Please provide a reason for your answer.

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3. Do you have or know of any information that might be relevant to the EIA (e.g. environmental information and community, social or economic information)?

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4. Do you know of any other individual or organisation that you feel would want to register as a stakeholder and receive information. Please provide names and contact information below.

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***Thank you for your participation***