

AN APPLICATION FOR AN ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION FOR THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF A CAUSTIC-SODA MAKE-UP PLANT IN KEMPTON PARK, GAUTENG PROVINCE, SOUTH AFRICA.

PROJECT REFERENCE NUMBER – GAUT: GAUT 002/20-21/E2748

This notice serves to inform interested and affected parties (I&APs) in accordance with the National Environmental Management Act, (Act No 36 of 1998) (NEMA) as Amended, that African Chemicals (Pty Ltd has appointed Batach Holdings as the environmental assessment practitioner (EAP) to submit an application for an Environmental Authorisation for the construction of a Caustic Soda Make-Up plant in Kempton Park, Gauteng Province.

APPLICANT, PROPOSED PROJECT DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

The applicant is African Chemicals (Pty) Ltd - an industrial chemical manufacturing, marketing and distributor of caustic soda flakes and pearls (sodium hydroxide), caustic soda (sodium hydroxide), copper sulphate, sodium sulphate, sodium silicate, soda ash, sulphuric acid and hydrochloric acid.

Current production estimates are that the proposed Caustic Soda Make-Up plant will produce approximately 5000 tonne of caustic lye per month at 45-50% weight by weight (w/w). The caustic flakes will be delivered in 1000 kg or 1250 kg bulk bags and stored in a warehouse. The Caustic Lye, at a 50% w/w concentration will be stored at 40 degrees Celsius in heated bulk storage tanks to prevent crystallization.

African Chemical's proposed Caustic Soda Make-Up plant has a development footprint of 18758.67 square meters. The plant will be established on the north eastern boundary tip of the NCP Chlorchem site, Chloorkop in the Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality, Gauteng Province. The proposed plant will be the 5th largest source of caustic soda in Southern Africa and designed to be fully automated with a make-up tank fed through weigh feeders which will ensure consistent product quality. The plant will service inland consumers and SADC countries.

THE AUTHORISATION PROCESS

The construction of the proposed Caustic Soda Make-Up plant triggers the need for scoping and environmental impact assessment (EIA) processes, which will be conducted as per the requirements of the relevant acts and regulations. A Scoping Report, Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIR) and an Environmental Management Programme (EMP) will be compiled, made available to the general public for comments before they are submitted to the competent authority for consideration.

THE PROCESS TO COMMENT

The National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) requires that I&APs be afforded the opportunity to participate in the environmental authorisation process. A public participation process for the application process has been initiated to afford I&APs representing all relevant interests and sectors of society, technical specialists and the various relevant organs of state, an opportunity to contribute relevant information by commenting on the findings of the environmental assessments and verify that their comments have been considered in the impact assessment process. Should you wish to participate in the process, please request the background information document (BID) or register on the I&AP database by submitting your particulars and contact details to the address below:

Contact person: Lesly Thathana. **Telephone:** +27 68 082 7129. **Fax:** 086 551 9788.

Email: lesly@miprojects.net **Postal Address:** P.O. Box 73111, Lynnwood Ridge, 0040.

The Background Information Document (BID) and Comment Sheet can also be obtained from the following websites:

• www.batach.co.za • www.africhemicals.co.za