

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NOTICE

Environmental Impact Assessment Process (EIA) for an Exemption Application: Loop 7A (between Loop 6 - Kanakies and Loop 7 - De Kop) on the Sishen – Saldanha Railway Line (Department Environmental Affairs and Tourism Reference Number: 12/12/20/874).

Notice is given in terms of the Regulations of the National Environmental Management Act, (Act 7 of 1998) of intent to apply for exemption from certain of the conditions contained in the Regulations in order to carry out the following activity:

Activity:

Transnet is in the process of upgrading the iron ore export capacity of the Sishen – Saldanha railway line and improving its present operational efficiency. The unequal spacing between loops 6, 7 and 8, (in the Loeriesfontein – Brandvlei areas) where up and downward trains cross each other, affects the smooth flow of train traffic on the whole line. It is now proposed to build a new loop numbered 7A between loops 6 and 7 which will even out the running time of trains in this section and allow more effective scheduling of the line as a whole, at current as well as future tonnages planned.

Location:

The railway line is from Saldanha (0 km) in the south up to Sishen (861 km) in the north. The new planned Loop 7A is situated in the Northern Cape (316 - 324 km) with Loeriesfontein the closest town. The Loop will be constructed entirely within the present servitude.

Proponent:

TRANSNET Ltd, trading as SPOORNET.

Consultant: SHE Cape Environmental (CC), P.O. Box 471, Paarden Eiland, 7420.

Fax: 021 – 553 1851. Email: info@shecape.co.za

In order to ensure that you are identified as an interested and/or affected party, please submit your name, contact information and interest in the matter to the contact consultant as given above not later than **8 January 2006**.

