

MEDIA STATEMENT

TNPA APPROACHES THE MARKET FOR WATER DESALINATION PROJECT

[Gqeberha, 04 April 2023] Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA) has issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the supply of a seawater desalination plant at the Port of East London, as part of efforts to ensure consistent availability of freshwater supply to the ports.

The process will see the appointment of a qualified service provider to design, construct, operate, and maintain a 0,5 mega litres (ML) per day desalination plant at the Port of East London (PoEL). The plant will produce potable water in line with drinking water quality standards (South African National Standards 241:2015).

The desalination plant project will enable TNPA to minimise dependency on external parties to provide water to the port system.

Sphiwe Mthembu, East London Port Manager highlighted: “With the recent water challenges experienced in some of the port cities, we acknowledge the need to promote innovative and collaborative efforts to promote sustainable supply. As the port aims to attract vessels in need of bunkering, minor repairs, and water to ship transfer, this project becomes of outmost importance.”

“The reliance on an external water supply system poses a risk for the Port when the need for additional water demands arises. TNPA needs to proactively provide solutions to meet the demand and we aim to do so through this desalination project” said Dr Steven Mathetsa, Sector Specialist: Water Projects.

The release of the RFP follows sufficient information received from the Request for Information on the same project, which was issued by TNPA in August 2022. TNPA plans to issue an RFP for the Nelson Mandela Bay Ports later this month.

RFP documents can be accessed from the National Treasury's e-tender publication portal

<https://www.etenders.gov.za/> and/or the Transnet website:

<https://transnetetenders.azurewebsites.net/Home/TenderDetails?Id=23305>

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About Transnet National Ports Authority

Transnet National Ports Authority (TNPA) is one of six operating divisions of Transnet SOC Ltd. The National Ports Authority is responsible for the safe, effective, and efficient economic functioning of the national port system, which it manages in a landlord capacity. It provides port infrastructure and marine services at the eight commercial seaports in South Africa – Richards Bay, Durban, Saldanha, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, East London, Mossel Bay and Ngqura. It operates within a legislative and regulatory environment and is governed by the National Ports Act (Act No. 12 of 2005).

For more information visit www.transnetnationalportsauthority.net

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