PROPOSED COEGA ALUMINIUM SMELTER

Notification of Alcan’s application for amendment to the Record of Decision attached to the authorisation issued in terms of Section 22 of the Environmental Conservation Act, Act 73 of 1989, for the proposed Primary Aluminium Smelter in the Coega Industrial Development Zone

All interested and affected parties (I&APs) are hereby notified that Amendment Notice #2, dated 10 October 2005, to the Record of Decision (ROD) issued by the Provincial Department of Economic Affairs, Environment and Tourism (DEAE&T) of the Eastern Cape government, with regards to the ‘Final Technology Review Report for the Proposed Coega Aluminium Smelter within the Coega Industrial Development Zone’ (CSIR Report dated July 2005), has been upheld.

This Amendment Notice #2 provides environmental authorisation to Alcan to proceed with the construction and operation of a primary aluminium smelter comprising two potlines and utilising AP35 smelting technology. This Amendment Notice must be read in conjunction with the original ROD issued on 20 December 2002 and the Amendment Notice issued on 22 December 2003.

Amendment application and opportunity for comment

All I&APs are hereby notified that, following confirmation from the MEC for the DEAE&T that Amendment Notice #2 has been upheld, Alcan has submitted an application for further amendment to the ROD. This further amendment is requested in order to take into consideration recent design refinements for the smelter and other current developments associated with the project. For reasons of economic viability, the nominal capacity of the smelter will be increased from 660 000 tons per annum (tpa) of aluminium production to approximately 720 000 tpa. I&APs are reminded that the potential impacts of this scenario of 720 000 tpa were assessed comprehensively in the Technology Review process conducted in 2005. Alcan’s proposed amendments are contained in an “Amendment Application Letter” dated 3 March 2006 submitted to the provincial DEAE&T. I&APs are invited to submit comments on this letter to Public Process Consultants (the public participation consultants) at the contact details provided below. All comments must be received within the 21 day comments period, which commences on 6 March 2006 and closes on 27 March 2006.

Copies of the original Record of Decision issued on 20 December 2002, the Amendment Notice issued on 22 December 2003, Amendment Notice #2 issued on 10 October 2005, as well as Alcan’s Amendment Application Letter dated 3 March 2006 can be accessed on the following website http://smelter.csir.co.za and will also be placed in the following locations:

Nelson Mandela Metropole Libraries: Govan Mbeki Avenue, New Brighton, Motherwell, Newton Park, Walmer, Uitenhage, Gelvandale, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University Summerstrand Campus as well as the Technicon and Vista Campus.
Cape Town: UCT Government Publications Department.

In addition to this, copies of Alcan’s Amendment Application Letter, as well as of the original ROD and Amendment Notices, may be obtained by sending an email, written or fax request to sandy@publicprocess.co.za or Public Process Consultants, PO Box 27688, Greenacres 6057 or Fax (041) 373 2002. For further information contact Sandy Wren on (041) 374 8426.