

Development of a Fuel Retail Facility in Sangwali, Zambezi Region

Minutes of Public Participation Meeting

Venue: Sangwali Sub-Khuta

Date: 17 September 2021

Time: 11H40-13H30

1. Introduction

Mr. Morven Mukwata, the Village Development Committee (VDC) chairperson for Sangwali opened the meeting with a prayer and gave the floor to the Induna/Headman – Mr. Sangwali – who welcomed all the meeting attendants. Mr. Gilty Sitali was then given a chance to introduce himself to the community and the purpose of his visit. The stakeholders and the attendants of the meeting were then given a chance to introduce themselves. After the purpose of the meeting was highlighted, the stakeholders were encouraged to make comments on the proposed development in order to improve the project relevance to stakeholders' needs and expectations. Participants were then asked to complete the attendance register before Mr. Gilty Sitali proceeded with the presentation.

2. Overview of the Meeting

Mr. Gilty Sitali gave an overview of the proposed development. He emphasized the need for participation during the meeting as it was the right platform to provide information, recommendations towards the proposed development as well as to receive feedback from the project consultant(s), and the proponent. The key aspects during the introductory remarks included:

- Meeting agenda;
- Rules of the meeting;
- The project team;
- Purpose of the meeting;
- Purpose of the project;
- Project location;
- Summarised the project's activities;
- Explained the project progress; and

- Explained the impacts that are expected as a result.

The participants were given the opportunity to comment on the agenda and/or to ask for clarification where needed.

3. Project Overview

Mr. Gilty Sitali gave the presentation on the project where he outlined the following:

- Background of the project and the key implementers;
- Overview of the project programme;
- Overview of the technical details of the project;
- Potential impacts and mitigation measures of the proposed development.

Please find the attached presentation.

4. Open Forum

Below are some of the issues that arose during the public participation meeting:

Issue raised by	Issue Comment	Response
Mulauli Jones	Has the project area been identified?	Consultant – Yes, the project area has been identified – the planned service station will be developed at the T-junction of the road from Sangwali to C49 (Kongola-Katima road).
Morven Mukwata	Are you the same people who were here first? There was a “white person” here, and he was taken around the place (Sangwali) to identify an area suitable for the development of a service station. Mr. Mukwata further continued to state that the VDC was not aware of the proposed development of a fuel retail service station, and asked who was given the area to develop it?	Consultant – no, this is the first time the consultant has come to Sangwali for the purpose of developing a fuel retail station. The VDC chairperson, Mr. Mukwata, was informed that the proponent – Mr. Mushitu Mukwame – was given the land for the development, supported by a lease hold in their possession.
Alexander Sangwali	Comment: Mr. Alexander stressed that the development was good for the community of Sangwali but that there was a land issue in question. He asked whether the land was given to the developer, and then further continued to state that the development was good for the community as they have to travel long distances to get petrol/diesel. He closed off by saying that the development of this service station would save the	Consultant – thanked the participant for the positive remarks made towards the intended project, and encouraged further questions and comments.

	community of Sangwali and the nearby villages from having to travel long distances for petrol/diesel.	
Kamaya Letty	Maintained that she was confused as why the meeting, stating that she was not certain whether the meeting was for the service station of for town development.	Consultant – the consultant informed Ms. Kamaya that the meeting was for the proposed development – a fuel retail service station in Sangwali.
B. Maloboka	<p>Stressed that ‘disputes’ over the land over which the intended project will be developed should be sorted out for the development to be carried out. He also asked if there will be benefits for the Sub-Khuta and the Khuta from the service station once operations commence.</p> <p>He finished off by saying/suggesting that it would be better for the proponent to come on the ground and have a meeting with the community for the community to have a better understanding of the intended project as many people were convinced as to whether the proponent was working together with the person that had come earlier with the same intention of developing a service station in the Sangwali area.</p>	<p>Mr. Maloboka was informed that the land over which the development is intended had been given a long time ago, by Induna Sangwali. Although, he maintained that the land that was given was on the eastern side of the road and not on the western side.</p> <p>With regards to the benefits from the service station to the Khuta, he was informed that this could be an agreement that could be reached by the proponent and the Khuta, if it had not been reached upon of yet.</p> <p>He was informed that the proponent would be informed of the concern.</p>
Bafumisi Shwena	I am builder myself, I just want to find out where the intended development will be situated.	Consultant – the enquirer was informed that the intended project would be developed at the junction of the C49 road with the trunk road that leads into Sangwali.
Alexander Sangwali	Will there be a septic tank there? Where will the rubbish and sewage discharge be disposed off?	Consultant – yes there will be a septic tank for the intended project. There are also plans for a more permanent solution in the long run.

In addition, Mr. Bravo Maezi indicated that it was a good development as he will also obtain electricity from the development’s grid. Mr. Maloboka indicated that it would be a great gesture if the proponent would having a meeting with the community of Sangwali at the Khuta for a better understanding of the intended project.

5. Conclusion

The proposed development – the fuel retail service station – does not pose any serious long-term negative impacts on the environment. Most of the identified impacts can be mitigated through good environmental management practice.

The main concern for the public was on the land issue, the question was who owns the land on which the intended project will be developed? The availability of employment opportunities for the members of the community was also raised. They stressed the need for the consideration of people from Sangwali for jobs where no expertise is needed.

6. Meeting Closure

Mr. Gilty Sitali and the Induna – Mr. Sangwali – thanked the participants for attending the meeting and for being conversant during the meeting. Mr. Morven Mukwata of the CDC then closed with a prayer. Interested and affected parties were invited to send any further comments/questions relating to the project via letters or email to: giltysitali@gmail.com or alternatively on +264 81 379 4552.