

**NOTICE OF A LEASE AND OPERATING AGREEMENT:
NOTICE AND COMMENT PROCESS IN RESPECT OF PROPERTIES OWNED BY
TRANSNET RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGER**

Transnet SOC Ltd
Registration No.: 1990/000900/30
Acting through its operating division
TRANSNET RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGER

**NOTICE TO THE MARKET: INVITATION FOR INTERESTED PARTIES TO COMMENT,
AND /OR PROVIDE ALTERNATIVE PROPOSALS TO A PROPOSAL FOR THE LEASE
AND OPERATING OF THE ALOES STATION AND DEPARTMENTAL SIDING.**

1. Introduction

The Transnet Rail Infrastructure Manager (TRIM) hereby gives notice, in accordance with the principles of procedural fairness and transparency as contemplated in the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, 2000 (Act No. 3 of 2000) ("PAJA"), that it has received a proposal for the lease of the Aloes Station and Departmental Siding in Gqeberha.

The Notice and Comment invitation is a TRIM governance and information gathering mechanism. The aim of this mechanism is to test and gather information from the market.

Comments submitted as a result of the process

- are non-binding on Transnet;
- do not confer any rights or preferential status to any party; and
- do not predetermine the outcome of the lease decision.

The absence of objections does not constitute a conditional approval.

2. Proposal

A proposal has been submitted for the lease, investment in upgrades/redesign and shunting operations between the Aloes Station and the respective sidings connecting to the station. The Aloes departmental siding forms part of the proposal as it is a key enabler to redesign the precinct to accommodate full trains and thereby reducing the cost of shunting and enhancing operational efficiency. These upgrades feed directly into the Back of Port Operational (BOP) facilities without which the operations cannot take place.

Refer the table below

Entity	Property Description (Refer to Annexure A)	Tenure
A consortium consisting of three (3) Companies with back of Port Operations linked to these facilities.	- Aloes Station - Aloes Departmental Siding	7 years

The consortium, composed of three logistics services companies, who are currently leasing and operating the sidings with rail linking to this yard, aims to enhance the operational capacity and efficiencies of the Aloes Yard with a focus on the following key elements:

2.1 Investment Overview:

While specific figures are proprietary to the consortium, it is understood that substantial capital will be allocated toward facility upgrades and operational improvements. The investment is intended to optimize logistics efficiency and improve service delivery within the Aloes Yard precinct.

2.2 Operational Enhancements:

The proposed operations will include a comprehensive assessment and redesign of the facility layout and processes to streamline the link between Aloes Yard and the Private Siding operated by the consortium. This initiative aims to reduce turnaround times and increase capacity for rail operations.

The current operating model is broken into two parts performed by different parties.

Part 1: TFR trains arrive from the main line and these need to be broken up due to the limited line capacity at Aloes Station. These trains are then shunted to the 3 BOP yards.

Part 2: This activity is performed by each BOP where they collect their loads from their individual yards and place them at their offloading sidings.

The proposed operating proposal looks at extending the operational footprint of the BOP (JV) to cover the operations from their sidings to Aloes Station. This would form a seamless operational flow and reduce multiple handling.

To support this, the Aloes Departmental siding would be combined with the Aloes Station and upgraded to arrive full block trains and reducing multiple train handling.

The BOP's extension of their operations will reduce mainline activities at the facility and allow quicker turnaround placing loaded trains and dispatching empties.

This makes the current BOP's yard and siding operations a key enabler to achieving an end-to-end solution which will be operated by them on a common user basis

2.3 Strategic Alignment:

A collaboration in infrastructure investments is in line with the objectives of the Transnet Reinvent for Growth Strategy (R4G) which seeks to improve infrastructure reliability thereby increasing tons moved on rail.

2.4 Market Engagement

Interested parties are encouraged to submit their objections and/or alternate proposals with clear motivation in response to this proposal, utilizing the information provided in this Notice while considering your unique operational models and market strategies.

TRIM has not yet taken a decision on whether to approve or reject the proposal and remains committed to a transparent and fair evaluation process.

3. Purpose of This Notice

The purpose of this Notice and Comment is to afford all interested and affected parties, including but not limited to potential rail operators, service providers and members of the public, a reasonable opportunity to:

- Submit comments, representations, objections, or alternative proposals.
- Provide information relevant to the consideration of the proposal by TRIM; and
- Highlight any potential concerns regarding competition, value for money, fairness, transparency, or public interest considerations.

4. Invitation to Comment or Object

Interested and affected parties are hereby invited to submit written comments, objections, and/or alternate proposals addressing, *inter alia*:

- the appropriateness of the proposed transaction and any alternative proposals or open market approaches that TRIM should consider. Any potential impact on market competition or access.
- Public interest considerations relevant to the transaction.
- Any other factors that TRIM ought reasonably to take into account before making a decision.
- If an interested party chooses to submit an alternate proposal, you are required to submit an adequately detailed value proposition outlining your business case in relation to, but not limited to, the following aspects:
 1. Market-related rental offer for the Aloes Station and Departmental Siding (Leased Facility)
 2. The design, detailed investment, and upgrade of the Leased Facility (Business Case)
 3. Operational model covering the shunting operations between the Leased Facility and all the connecting back of ports private sidings.
 4. Letter of consent from all the back of port connecting private sidings linking to the Leased Facility, to take over rail operations between their private yards and their private sidings.
- If an affected party chooses to object, you are required to submit a response indicating the basis of your objection, with sufficient detail, to enable TRIM to adequately consider the objection.

TRIM may further engage respondents for additional information on their responses where necessary.

5. Submission Details

All submissions relating to Comments must:

- Be made **in writing**;
- Clearly indicate the **name and contact details** of the submitting party;
- Reference **"Aloes Station and Siding Lease – Notice and Comment"**; and
- Be submitted no later than 06 October 2026, at 23h00.
- Submitted to: AloesNC@transnet.net

Comments received after the closing date will be disregarded.

Submissions should be uploaded to Transnet e-Tender.

The Transnet e-Tender Submission Portal can be accessed as follows:

- Log on to the Transnet eTenders management platform website (<https://www.transnet.net>);
- Click on "TENDERS";
- Scroll towards the bottom right-hand side of the page;
- On the blue window click on "register on our new eTender Portal";
- Click on "ADVERTISED TENDERS" to view advertised notice and comments;
- Click on "SIGN IN/REGISTER – for bidder to register their information (must fill in all mandatory information);
- Click on "SIGN IN/REGISTER" - to sign in if already registered;
- Interested parties wishing to submit comments or alternative proposals must log an Intent on the eTender Portal and upload their submission through the Portal.
- Submit comments, objections, and/or alternative proposal documents by uploading them into the system against each selected.

6. Consideration of Submissions

- TRIM will consider all submissions received before the cut-off time prior to making a decision on the award of the siding to any party.
- The invitation to Comment does not create any obligation on TRIM to approve or reject the proposal in a particular manner, nor does it predetermine the outcome of the lease-extension decision.
- A final decision on proposals remains subject to TRIM's independent assessment, value-for-money considerations, and approval in accordance with delegated authority and the requirements of section 51 of the PFMA, irrespective of whether objections or comments are received.
- The invitation to Comment does not create any obligation on TRIM to conduct business with any party that submits comments, objections, or alternate proposals.
- TRIM reserves the right to disclose submissions to the extent required by law or for purposes of evaluating the proposal. Parties should clearly identify information regarded as confidential.
- TRIM reserves the right to withdraw this Notice, amend the process, request additional information or take any other lawful decision without incurring any liability.

7. Enquiries

Any enquiries regarding this Notice may be directed to: TRIMSidings@transnet.net and must:

- Clearly indicate the name and contact details of the submitting party;
- Reference "Aloes Station and Siding Lease – Notice and Comment"

TRIM urges Customers, Suppliers and Service Providers to report any acts of fraud and/or instances of corruption to Transnet's TIP-OFFS ANONYMOUS ON: 0800 003 056 or Transnet@tip-offs.com