

MEDIA ALERT

TO: ALL MEDIA
DATE: 03 OCTOBER 2005
ATTENTION: NEWS EDITORS/REPORTERS AND PR WIRE

MULTI MILLION - JOHN ROSS HIGHWAY PROJECT **TUESDAY 04 OCTOBER 2005 AT OILCO EMPANGENI - 10AM**

As part of Public Transport Month activities, **Transport Minister Mr. Jeff Radebe** and his provincial counterpart MEC for Transport Community, Safety and Liaison **Mr. Bheki Cele** will conduct a sod-turning ceremony of a Multi-Million John Ross Highway Project at **Empangeni-OILCO tomorrow at 10 am.**

The Upgrading of John Ross Highway to four lanes with an estimated **cost of R350 Million** was a National project which was declared a toll road in 2003. This raised a huge debate and public pressure which resulted in the abandonment of the project. The multi-million project was strategically handed over to be a provincial road.

Infrastructure development will provide economic upliftment to the entire community of Empangeni and Richards Bay by enhancing skills development and creating jobs thus alleviating poverty and working towards building a South Africa that truly belongs to all. Furthermore the project will promote government policy of co-operative governance as it involves three spheres of government; National, Provincial and Local government.

Ends

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