



VAAL DAM FORUM MEETING

Date: 23 February 2012

Time: 10:00

Venue: Deneysville DWA Offices

Minutes of the Vaal Dam Catchment Forum Meeting held on 23 February 2012 at Deneysville: DWA Offices.

ATTENDEES:

Name	Organisation
N Radebe	Mafube Local Municipality
M Manaka	DWA
T Khoza	DWA
T Pather	DWA
N Van der Walt	Rand Water
S Kotsoane	Fezile Dabi District Municipality
N Hulisani	Eskom
B Van Der Walt	Eskom
D Ramaphosa	Eskom
F Schoeman	Earlybird Farm
HJ Kriel	Earlybird Farm
Bruce & I Main	SAVE (Vaaldam)
C Mohlahli	Dept of Health
T Motaung	Dept of Health

	DISCUSSION	ACTION/FOLLOW UP
1.	<p>Welcome and introduction of attendees and apologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> R Hariram welcomed everyone to the forum meeting and requested everyone to introduce themselves. 	

	<p>Apologies</p> <p>W Pinaar</p> <p>F Mamabolo</p> <p>E Matseba</p>	
2.	Approval of Previous Meeting	
3.	<p>Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting</p> <p>Corrections</p> <p>P2 5.2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandspruit above Volksrust – the past three (03) months there was non compliance in terms of Alkalinity and conductivity. • Sandspruit below Vaal River @ Kliplaatsdrift – the past three (03) months they had non compliance of Alkalinity and conductivity due to farming activities in that area. • Vaal River downstream of Standerton – the past three (03) there were non compliance in terms of Alkalinity, nitrates conductivity and PH. The cause might be influence in the sewage works. • Gladdedrift Bridge @ Villiers – the past three (03) there were problems with Alkalinity and conductivity because the flow is too low. <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M Manaka was tasked to send a letter to Municipalities and request them to attend forum meetings. • M Manaka responded that she sent invitation to the municipalities but they did not respond. • The forum requested S Kotsoane from Fezile Dabi Municipality to ask the municipalities to attend the forum meetings. • T Pather will organise a meeting with Oupa to 	S Kotsoane

	<p>discuss a way forward regarding Landfill site and give feedback in the next meeting. Oupa from where?</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • T Pather said that he tried to contact Oupa on the line but did not get hold of him. However he will try again and give feedback in the next meeting. • The forum requested N. Radebe to find out if Wilge pump station is still operating and report back in next meeting. • N. Radebe responded that all their pump stations are operating well. 	
4.	<p>Additions to the agenda and approval of the agenda</p> <p>The following additions were made to the agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8.3 Yellow Fish in the whole catchment presentation. 	
5.	<p>Water Quality in the Vaal Dam Catchment</p> <p>DWA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M Manaka presented water quality report for the quarter starting 1 November 2011 to January 2012. • At Vaal River @ Villiers, Vaal Dam on Vaal River and Delangesdrift Bridge – ammonia is out of specification for the past three (03) months. • Pampoenspruit Down Stream of Memel – during December 2011 month ammonia is out of specification. • Standerton up Stream of the Sewage Works – during December 2011 and January 2012, ammonia is out 	

	<p>of specification.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conductivity at Vaal River downstream of Standerton, Spruitsonderdrift D/S of Vrede and Pampoenspruit down Stream of Memel- is out of specification. • PH was ideal except for Spruitsonderdrift in December 2011. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standerton Sewage Works – faecal coliform and E-coli were out of specification and nothing was reported to the department (DWA). • Vrede Sewage Works- faecal coliform and E-coli during December 2011, they were out of specification. • I Main asked were M Manaka is taking samples at Vaal Marina. • M Manaka answered that samples are taken after chlorination at the sewage works. <p>Rand Water</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sandspruit above Volksrust- Alkalinity were slightly out of specification. • Sandspruit below Vaal River @ Kliplaatsdrift – Alkalinity and conductivity they were unacceptable the past three (03) months. • Klip River @ Barnardskop- there were no significant water issues water quality was acceptable the past three (03) months. • Klip River @ De Langesdrift- there was significant increase in terms of Alkalinity. The cause might be the construction next to the Bridge. • Spruitsonderdrift downstream of Vrede- there was non compliance of Alkalinity, nitrates and COD. The 	

	cause might be sewage works in the town of Vrede.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gladdedrift Bridge @ Villiers- there was low flow of hygiene. Alkalinity, COD and electrical conductivity there were unacceptable the past three months. • Standerton Sewage Works- they have applied for general authorisation and the sewage work is still not complying in terms of ammonia, COD and Alkalinity • The forum wanted to know if I Main has managed to secure fund for sewage works as agreed in the previous meeting. • I Main responded that the letter has been sent to government, they are still waiting for respond. • R Dragana highlighted that when applying for funding to upgrade sewage plants a right procedure should be followed, which is to encourage the municipalities to apply. • M Manaka requested the forum to come up with a plan to get the municipalities to attend the forum. • The forum suggested that in order to get the municipalities to attend the forum, next forum meeting must be held at their premises. M Manaka to arrange a venue with Lekwa Municipality for the next forum meeting. 	M Manaka
5.3	Waste Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are ten landfill sites at these catchment • T Pather reported that about the old site at Vaal marina he had an appointment with the consultant but the consultant did not make it. However he will speak to the Local municipality in order to come up 	T Pather

	<p>with a plan to solve the problem. Report will be given in the next meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The consultant has done an in the area however it was later discovered it does not have any meaning. • The forum requested T Pather to give a presentation in the next meeting which indicate how the landfill site operates. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • T Pather to give a presentation in the next forum meeting. • The forum asked on who is responsible to issue directive to the municipalities who are not complying in terms of landfill site. • T Pather answered that GDARD is responsible on issuing directive also said the forum can contact Mendu if they need assistant. 	

6.	<p>Report Back from stakeholders in the Vaal Dam catchment</p> <p>Phumelela</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absent without apology <p>Lekwa Municipality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absent without apology <p>Metsimoholo Municipality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absent without apology <p>Mafube Municipality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kula Ligadaba works is going to be upgraded, the tender is in process. • Currently their pump stations are operating well. 	
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	<p>Early Bird Farm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In terms of their Water Use License Application (WULA) they are still busy with EIA process immediately when it's finalised it will be send to the Department (DWA). • M Manaka asked when they are going to submit their WULA to the department (DWA). • Responded that they are not sure about the exact date however they will give M Manaka contact details of their consultant. 	
	<p>Grootvlei Power Station</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B Van der Walt reported that they have started with additions of 500 000 fuel or tanks whereby they are going to install on site and public participation has been conducted. • They are planning to have a cup of trench in order track possible leachate. • Busy upgrading fencing at Vaal Dam in terms of access control. • They have conducted a quarterly ground water monitoring report and copies of previous report will be handed to M Manaka. • They have also cleaned Ash water retain dam. • M Manaka requested B Van der Walt to arrange a site visit with DWA before they start with fencing at Vaal Dam. <p>Metsimoholo Municipality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proper feedback will be given next meeting. 	

7.	<p>Catchment Management Agency (CMA) update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R Dragana to organise the coordinator of CMA to give presentation next meeting. 	
8.	<p>General</p> <p>8.1 Water Use licence applications status</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burnstone Mine – Water Use License has been issued. 	
8.2	<p>Pollution Incident</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was a spillage from pump station at Vaalmarina sewage plant however it was sorted out. 	
8.3	<p>Yellow Fish in the whole Catchment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R Hariram gave presentation of Yellow Fish. 	
9.	<p>Closure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R. Hariram thanked everyone for attending and participating, he then closed the meeting. 	