



VAAL DAM FORUM MEETING

Minutes of the Vaal Dam Catchment Forum Meeting held on 28/05/2009

Attendance Register

Name	Company	Contact Details
J.Lekoane	DWAF	012 392 1381
F. Mamabolo	DWAF	012 392 1361
N. Radebe	Mafube Municipality	058 813 1051
D. M. Lubbe	Metsimaholo Municipality	016 371 1130
Ngwenya B	Pixley ka Seme Municipality	083 666 7544
B.Van der Walt	Eskom	017 779 8964
V. Hlatshwayo	Lekwa Municipality	017 712 9600
E.J. Vanzyl	Fizile Dabi District	058 813 1111
N. Khumalo	Fizile Dabi District	058 813 1111
F. Kok	PLM	084 201 2000
N. P. Cindi	PLM	076 884 7324
D. Ristic	DWAF	012 336 8302
B. Lubbe	Metsimaholo Municipality	016 371 2424
K. Chetty	Rand Water	011 682 0735

	DISCUSSION	ACTION/FOLLOW UP
1.	<p>Welcome and introduction of attendees and apologies</p> <p>K. Chetty welcomed the attendees to the meeting.</p> <p>Apologies</p> <p>Martha Manaka W. Pienaar</p>	
2.	<p>Minutes of Previous Meeting</p> <p>There were no changes made to the minutes of the previous meeting and minutes were accepted as true reflection of what was discussed during the previous meeting.</p>	DWAF

3.	Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting	
3.1	There were no matters arising from the previous meeting.	
4.	Additions to the Agenda and Approval of the Agenda.	
4.1.	Reporting of water quality status	
5.	<p>Water Quality in the Vaal Dam Catchment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DWAF <p>J. Lekoane gave presentation on the water quality status of the Vaal dam Catchment (VDC). J. Lekoane indicated that the sewage works in the catchment are not complying with the Water Quality Guidelines. Question: Is there anything that can be done to the plant particularly Standerton Waste Water Treatment Works? Rand Water Planned to assist with the plant, site inspection will be done and sanitation section from Rand Water will assist. (DWAF must form part of the team). Chairperson to lease with Martha to set up the date of the site visit. All other members of the forum will be invited or updated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rand Water <p>Karen Chetty gave a presentation for the Vaal Dam water quality status. She indicated that the water quality report is available in the reservoir website.</p>	<p>J. Lekoane: DWAF</p> <p>K. Chetty: Rand Water</p>
6.	<p>Report back from Stakeholders in the Vaal Dam catchment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phumelela Municipality <p>There was a spillage at Vrede last week. The problem of E-coli in the drinking water and it is currently a problem especially if it is highly raining. It was suggested that if a dam can be build under circumstances it will be a solution to the problem. - The statement was made that at the forum is hot a good place for making decision about building dams or what?</p>	

	<p>- It was advised that they (Vrede) must speak to the municipality about their problems.</p> <p>- It was also mentioned that DWA, Bloemfontein is busy on the process of building the dam but the process is still in the pipeline. P. Cindi indicated reported that the Municipality is experiencing a problem of vandalism and further indicated that they are losing trained operators to other companies/ municipalities. They have to start again to train the operators that they currently have.</p> <p>• Lekwa Municipality</p> <p>They are still busy upgrading the plant, the reactors are busy been cleaned and by the end of July the whole reactor will be finished.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No samples are taken by the municipality - Samples will be taken by the end of July. - Lekwa will present the water quality status in the next forum as they will start to take samples. <p>• Metsimaholo Municipality</p> <p>There were no spillages</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Laboratory is running by the acting person - The waste water treatment works (WWTW) must be added on the agenda. - There are few developments around the area, busy with the - It was mentioned that it is a private development. - Karen Chetty will get the information on the new development. - Samples are taken once a week at the WWTW, format of the Water Quality data will be forwarded to the so that they can present at the next forum. <p>• Mafube Municipality</p> <p>K. Nel indicated that the dams are full but consultants are working on that.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pump station is up and running there are no problems currently, they are busy fixing the pump station that is out of town. - Namahadi, they are busy fixing it. - They are in a process of appointing a service provider for sampling 	
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	<p>process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seme Municipality <p>Bonele reported that there were no problems in the WWTW. They must present their water quality Data in the next forum.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Bird Farm <p>Absent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grootvlei Power Station <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ash problem, ash that couldn't be taken to the ash dam as they had a problem with oil contamination, but it is controlled and being cleaned up by the power station. - It was mentioned that according to section 19 of the National Water Act no spillages must be re-occurred. - It was clarified that the spillages does not occur at the same place. - Problems: WWTW- have high E-coli <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water reticulation is taking place - Busy with the replacement of the leaking pipes 	
7.	<p>Catchment Management Agency (CMA) update</p> <p>Vaal River Study</p> <p>D. Ristic reported that the studies are done and finished.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation will be done on the next forum meeting as there is no equipment for this forum. - www.dwaf.gov.za is the website for the project of the of integrated Vaal River studies. - The website was given to the members of the forum to check the presentation. 	<p>DWAF</p> <p>D. Ristic: DWAF</p>
8.	<p>General</p>	All
8.1	<p>Water use License Applications Status</p>	

<p>8.2</p>	<p>K. Chetty asked all the municipalities if they have applied for the WUL, some have applied and others not.</p> <p>Pollution Incidents</p> <p>Vaal river a pollution was reported a month after and no investigations could be done as the water was clean.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Intec points at Rand water in Vereeniging had a pollution incident but did not affect the water supply. Grootvlei power station received complains from the nearby farmer that their dams are polluting the water within his area. 	<p>DWAF to provide feedback on status of water use license All</p>
<p>8.3</p>	<p>Review of monitoring points</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Points that are not necessary to the department are going to be reviewed and some will be removed especially the level three points at this catchment. - The points will be removed according to their level of importance. - It was mentioned that it was difficult to monitor diffuse source. - Chairperson mentioned that DWAF must take into consideration the In-stream Water Quality guide when they are drafting the license. 	<p>DWAF</p>
<p>8.4</p>	<p>Waste Discharge Charge System(WDCS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Martha will be circulating the forms to all water users. - Information will be communicated to all the water users through the media. - WDCS will be given in the next forum (Martha to organize the presenters). - Some of the forum members didn't know about the WDSC,as such it was agreed that the presentation will be done in the next forum . <p>Next Meeting: Presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Vaal River Studies - WDCS <p>There must be a standard format for presentation.</p>	

9.	Closure Chairperson thanked all for attending the meeting and closed the meeting. Next meeting: 27/08/2009, DWAF Offices, Deneysville, 10:00am	