# MINUTES BLESBOKSPRUIT FORUM

Thursday, 07 February 2019 Impala Platinum, Springs 10:00 – 13:00



No	Item	Action
1	Welcome	
	P Khwinana welcomed everyone to the first Forum meeting of 2019	P. Khwinana
	and thanked them for coming to the meeting.	
2	Introduction of Attendees	
	All attendees introduced themselves as the attendance register was circulated.	All
3	Apologies	
	The following apologies were noted:	
	- J. Van Wyk	
	- R. Van Hoeve	
	- A. Mbatha	
	- M. Liefferink	
	- P. Maphakela	
	- S. Tlale	
	- B. Mashau	
	- M. Leroy	
	- M. Matseba	
	- A. Kganyago	
	- T. Anderson	
4	Minutes of the Previous Meeting	
•	Minutes of the Forum meeting were accepted with the following corrections:	All
	Pg2, Item 7.2; Bullet number 6: 2. Gebnardt suggested that DWS should meet with different stakeholders and industries situated around.	
	Cowles dam to find out what could be the source of the plume	
	contaminating Cowles dam. A. Barker mentioned that the statement	
	should be captured under action list.	
	<ul> <li>Pg3, second paragraph: B. Fourie's surname has been corrected.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Pg3, fourth paragraph: A. Barker mentioned that the statement should</li> </ul>	
	also be captured under action list.	
	Pg4, Item 8.3; bullet number 2: E.coli still remains a problem due to	
	the hydraulic and organic overloading of the Plant.	
	Pg4, Item 8.5; Bullet number 4: Eastern basin was corrected	
	Pg5, Item 9: the statement was rephrased. Ms Maurizi forwarded the	
	contact details of City of Ekurhuleni officials to DWS so that the	
	Department can engage with the officials responsible for Solid waste	
	or the HOD and invite them to the forum for solid waste presentation.	
	Pg 5, item 10.1; bullet number 7: Q. Joshua mentioned that the reed	
	spraying is conservative given the rehabilitation that is going on with	
	the Ramsar Site.	

	<ul> <li>Pg6, Item 10.3.3; bullet number 2: statement was given by Ms C.</li> <li>Mataha.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Pg 8, Item 12.6: A. Barker presented an update on the Environmental</li> </ul>	
	authorisation at the next catchment forum.	
	• Pg8, Item 11.1: A. Maurizi mentioned that the blackness of the river at	
	Klein Blesbokspruit does not necessarily disappear after the rain	
	although when summer came, the blackness became visible after the	
	first rain but it disappeared again therefore it cannot be confirmed that	
	the disappearance of the blackness has something to do with the rain.	
	<ul> <li>Pg 9; item 13.1: The Gauteng wetland forum will be held at Marivale Bird Sanctuary.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Pg 10, item 15.3; bullet number 1: the sentence has been rephrased to</li> </ul>	
	say there are fishes which contain chemicals and they can cause	
	cancer when consumed by humans.	
	• Pg 10, item 15.3; bullet 4: The River needs to the monitored on a	
	regular basis and this sentence should also be captured under action	
	list.	
	<ul> <li>Pg10, Item 15.3; bullet 6: Organisations should provide reports with the water quality data that was discharged.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>Pg8, Item 12.18; Bullet number 2: A. Barker asked whether it was</li> </ul>	
	condition of the Water Use Licence that organisations must attend	
	forum meetings in order to provide regular feedback and report on	
	their water quality status.	
5	Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes	All
	Action 1. Mr Khwinana reported that WUAAAC is the committee which  has the outbority to enforce that condition and the first meeting for	
	has the authority to enforce that condition and the first meeting for WUAAAC will be held in March therefore feedback will be provided in	
	the next meeting.	
	<ul> <li>Action 2: DMR was not present therefore the action will be carried over</li> </ul>	
	to the next forum.	
6	Additions to the Agenda	
6.1	Pink Cowlesdam	
6.2 6.3	Phakisa for Water	
6.4	Rietspruit rehabilitation  EMM Project	
7	Items for Presentation	
7.1	Klipriviersberg Water stewardship initiative (KlipWas)	A. Barker
	A. Barker made a presentation where he provided update regarding	
	the management plan that was put together few years ago by Klipsa.	
	<ul> <li>KlipSa developed the Klipriviersberg Economic Ecosystem Development Plan to protect, promote and enhance the value of the</li> </ul>	
	natural assets in the Southern areas of Johannesburg.	
	<ul> <li>A. Barker mentioned that there are problems with regards to Wetlands</li> </ul>	
	as there are people dumping animal carcases into the wetland. The	
	KlipWas integration management plan is looking to find solutions for	
	managing situations such as dumping, abstraction farm forums and	
	irrigation channels.	

- A. Barker mentioned that there is a need to re-establish the wetlands and areas of opportunity that can be developed through the valley so that they can be on an acceptable class.
- KlipSa has been working with Aspin to re-instate some of the wetlands that have been hammered by infrastructure, erosion, irrigation canals and dumping and the idea is to study their Dam systems (Aspin) and bring together their processes and designs into the management plan.
- Klipsa has partnered with the University of Johannesburg and they are running research to find empirical information on the use of microorganisms.
- A. Barker encouraged forum members and stakeholders to get involved in the initiative.
- Full presentation has been circulated to forum members.

# 7.2 Kwatema sewer pipeline upgrade

T. Maramba

- Tinashe made presentation for Kwathema sewer pipeline upgrade and he further mentioned that they were sub-contracted by City of Ekurhuleni.
- The licence application is for section 21 (c) and (i).
- There is a dire need for a pipeline upgrade because the current line has deteriorated to a point where the effluent can be seen through the pipes and further to this, sewer spillages are noticeable on various sections of the pipeline.
- The new pipeline will be installed on the same channel where the old line is currently installed.
- Attributable to the current state of the pipeline, durability and life of infrastructure were main components during the selection of the upgrades materials.
- Design capacity of the pipeline will be about 135 l/s. the pipeline diameter will range between 315 mm and 900 mm and the length is approximately 14km.
- The process of the public participation has begun on the 25<sup>th</sup> of January 2019 for a period of 30 days and it will close on the 24<sup>th</sup> of February.
- The advertisement was published on Muny Consultants website and other newspapers.
- M. Havenga asked if the downstream treatment works will have a sufficient capacity to deal with the new volume that is coming and if so then it needs to be quantified.
- T. Maramba said that the downstream treatment works is currently operating below capacity.
- A. Barker mentioned that if they are re-instating an existing pipeline in a network, then how do they intend to do it on a same line because the sewage will still be coming through during the upgrading.
- T. Maramba responded and said that they will be using the UPBC material which can be inserted in an existing sewer pipeline therefore there will not be any disruption to the sewer line.

	<ul> <li>A. Barker mentioned that one cannot work within a flowing sewer for a longer period and as a result the sewerage will need to be stopped at some point to make connections as you rebuild.</li> <li>T. Maramba responded and said that this is an upgrade of a section of much larger network so the effluent will be directed through other pipelines.</li> <li>A. Barker mentioned that from operation implementation and sewage spills point of view it is going to be critical as to how concerns will be managed.</li> <li>P. Khwinana also mentioned that mitigation measures should also be included in their reports.</li> </ul>	
8	Water Quality Monitoring and Reporting	
8.1	<ul> <li>Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)</li> <li>P. Maphakela presented the DWS water quality status for the period October December 2018 and the report is as follows:</li> <li>The upper part of the Blesbokspruit (points 1 to 3) had an ideal water quality results although there was no flow at the Blesbokspruit @ snake Rd during the months of October and December.</li> <li>COD, E.coli and Suspended solid were non-compliant throughout the quarter at Cowles dam.</li> <li>E.coli also proven to be problematic at R555 road Bridge on Blesbokspruit. Phosphate and Ammonia were also unacceptable during the month of October.</li> <li>E.coli was again non-compliant at Poortjie road on Blesbokspruit and at stream from Duduza kaydale.</li> <li>The overall water quality for the catchment is not looking bad except for the non-compliances of E.coli, suspended solid and Phosphate at various sampling points.</li> <li>A. Barker asked if there is a specific reason why the Water quality is not on an acceptable level.</li> <li>P. Maphakela mentioned that with regards to the Cowles dam, DWS is still to meet with the stakeholders and Water Users to try to identify what could be the cause of contamination. P. Maphakela further mentioned that she is in the process of doing water quality for the effluent of Enstra paper to check if they have been complying with the</li> </ul>	P. Maphakela
8.2	required standards.  City of Ekurhuleni	A. Maurizi
	<ul> <li>A. Maurizi presented the Quarterly and Monthly water quality status reports for City of Ekurhuleni and the reports stated as follows.</li> <li>The quarterly Water quality results for City of Ekurhuleni indicates that there were challenges in terms of E.coli for sampling points at Benoni Civic lake, Benoni middle lake, Brakpan water from Jan Smuts dam and Cowles dam.</li> <li>Breakdown of the monthly water quality report shows that the Benoni</li> </ul>	

- Civic lake had a high Faecal Coliform count during the month of September because of an incident.
- The Brakpan water from Jan Smuts dam had highly elevated levels of Faecal Coliforms throughout the whole four months although there were a lot of interventions to try and contain the situation which resulted in improved counts during the last month.
- CoE had a challenge of accessing the Cowles dam therefore they
  were not fortunate to get samples every time but through the help
  from Enstra Paper they will start getting consistent samples for
  Cowles dam.

### 8.3 **Erwat**

L. Roode presented the Erwat water quality status and the report was as follows:

L. Roode

- The water quality results indicate that the Ancor upstream, Downstream and the Ancor Plant were all non-compliant in terms of COD and E.coli.
- As previously reported the Ancor Plant is hydraulic and usually overloaded but currently there are plans in place to upgrade the Pant particularly the technology.
- The Benoni Plant complied with the required standard throughout the whole quarter and the E.coli counts are all below 100. Downstream of Benoni Plant indicates elevated levels of E.coli.
- Carl Grundlingh- Nigel upstream shows a slight deterioration of conductivity during the third and fourth quarter. E.coli did not comply with the required standards but the quality improved in the last two quarters.
- Carl Grundlingh Nigel have managed to comply with the required standards throughout the whole quarters.
- Carl Gruddligh Nigel downstream had a slight deterioration during the last quarter in terms of E.coli.
- Both Daveyton upstream and downstream had non-compliances of E.coli which means there was sewer pollution coming from the Townships. Daveyton Pant had excellent water quality for the whole quarter except for non-compliances of E.coli during the second quarter.
- H. Bickley- Nigel Plant, upstream and downstream all had terrible water quality in terms of E.coli for all the quarters. Slight deterioration of E.coli at the H. Bickley Plant was due to overflowing manholes for a few days.
- Water quality for Heidelberg upstream was also non-compliant due to raw sewage and overflowing manholes from upstream townships although the water quality was ideal in the last quarter.
- Both JP Marais upstream and downstream had a very poor water quality in terms of E.coli but the Plant itself had an acceptable water quality. Deterioration of E.coli in the downstream was caused by illegal mining activities and overflowing manholes.
- Rynfield Benoni Plant had mechanical failures which resulted in noncompliance of E.coli. the downstream water quality was also very poor

- especially in terms of COD, E.Coli, Phosphate and Ammonia.
- Water quality for Tsakane, Ratanda downstream and Welgedacht springs Plant does not look impressive at all but the Welgedacht downstream has improved significantly during the last quarter as the effluent quality was ideal.
- A. Barker mentioned that there is a notable pattern as the u/s and d/s
  results of the WWTWs are often non-compliant but the water quality at
  the Plant itself is acceptable.
- M. Havenga mentioned these are the impacts of the current infrastructural shortcomings although Erwat is doing their best to upgrade their infrastructure but there is a whole infrastructure that is clearly failing and people are aware of it. M. Havenga further asked how this information is being incorporated into the municipal infrastructure planning.
- L. Roode mentioned that the compliance of all the Plants are reported monthly and quarterly to Ewart board of directors who then escalade it to CoE therefore the municipality is very much aware of the shortcomings and stages of the infrastructure. It is not known if the City of Ekurhuleni has any pipe upgrading programs in place at the moment because there is no proper communication.
- A. Barker mentioned that it is very important that the citizens should get involved and work with the City officials and also help them with the action plan to motivate to get the infrastructure upgrades done.
- L. Roode reported that Erwat and City of Ekurhuleni have embarked on a 50 year master Plan study and all the developments and plans for the city will be integrated and Plans are expected to be completed in November/December 2019.

## 8.4 Lesedi Local Municipality

No representative was present at the Forum meeting.

### 8.5 Rand Water (RW)

M de Fontaine presented the Water quality status for Rand Water and the report was as follows:

- M. de Fontaine
- B2 Outflow from Van Ryn dam indicates that levels of Ammonia and Phosphate still elevated although this is a known on going issue.
- At point B16 the Sulphate levels have dropped from 857 mg/l and 129 mg/l and this was due to fact that the AMD Plants has stopped releasing water. The Plant has not been operational from September 2018 until end of December but the Plant started operating from January 2019 and water will be releasing.
- Points B17 and B11 are still showing high levels of Sulphate which means the back end of the AMD discharge is still moving through the system although it is expected to be flushed out as the system comes back online again.
- There is a significant deterioration of Phosphate at point B12 and this is having a downstream impact on what is received at B10 hence this is why there is non-compliance of Phosphate at B10.

9.	Solid Waste Management	
	No one reported on Solid Waste Management.	
	DWS will engage with City of Ekurhuleni HOD to send a representative	
4.0	to the forum.	
10	Government Departments Report Back (5-minutes)	
10.1	GDARD	
	Absent with apology	B. Mashau
10.2	Dept. Mineral Resources  Absent without apology.	
	<ul> <li>M. Havenga mentioned that there are significant erosions taking place at one of the slime Dams eastern side of the Blesbokspruit education Centre and the department should follow up with DMR and invite them to the forum.</li> </ul>	
10.3	Dept. Water and Sanitation	
10.3.1	AMD Eastern Basin Update (TCTA)	
	<ul> <li>Absent with apology.</li> </ul>	
	<ul> <li>M. de Fontaine will get an update of the report from Ms Tlale and send out to members.</li> </ul>	
10.3.2	CMA Process	
	There is no update received from the Minister. Forum members will be updated should there be any new information.	
10.3.3	Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement (CME)	
	<ul> <li>Compliance audit was conducted at Rynfield WWTWs on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of January 2019 and the report was signed and sent to Rynfield facilities with administrative findings and the Department is awaiting response.</li> <li>Compliance audit was again conducted at Ukufisa Coal mine on the</li> </ul>	X. Bhele
	<ul> <li>23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> of January 2019 and the report is still to be finalised.</li> <li>A referral investigation was conducted at New Kleinfontein Gold Mine</li> </ul>	
	in December 2018.	
	<ul> <li>A compliance audit was conducted at Transnet pipeline on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> of December 2018 and the report was signed and submitted to the facility and they have responded. The report is waiting to be presented</li> </ul>	S. Mbeki
	<ul> <li>at the representation meeting.</li> <li>Compliance monitoring audit will be conducted on the 08<sup>th</sup> of February 2019 at Benoni WWTWs.</li> </ul>	

10.3.4	Water Services Regulation	C. Mataha
	<ul> <li>WSR previously reported that they conducted an inspection audit at Bellville on the 24th of August 2018 and there was a power failure at the site. A follow up inspection was conducted on the 7th of December and the findings were that the Plant has not been operational and they have been discharging into the Blesbokspruit without treating the effluent.</li> <li>It was also discovered that they are not updating their data on the GDS although there was a migration from GDS to Iris and be that as it may, they are still not updating their information.</li> <li>A. Barker mentioned that there has to be a reason why the Plant has not been Operational and why the forum members were not notified that the sewer was spilling for the past three years.</li> <li>P. Khwinana mentioned that the Water Service Regulation unit will make follow up on the matter.</li> </ul>	
10.3.5	<ul> <li>Water Use Licence Status</li> <li>H. Mathedimosa presented the water use licence status for the Blesbokspruit and the report was circulated to forum members</li> <li>A. Barker mentioned that the property description of the farm should be clearly defined and correct because most of the property descriptions listed on the spread sheet are fundamentally flawed applications.</li> <li>A. Barker further requested that there should be added columns of coordinates of application and details of the owner.</li> </ul>	H. Mathedimosa
11	Local Authorities Report (5-minutes)	
11.1	City of Ekurhuleni  Nothing further to report	A. Maurizi
11.2	<ul><li>Lesedi Local Municipality</li><li>No representative was present at the Forum meeting.</li></ul>	
12.	Organisations Report Back (5-minutes)	
12.1	<ul><li>ACSA</li><li>No representative was present at the forum meeting</li></ul>	
12.2	<ul><li>Comet Abattoir</li><li>No representative was present at the Forum meeting.</li></ul>	
12.3	<ul><li>EBM projects</li><li>No representative was present at the forum meeting</li></ul>	
12.4	<ul> <li>Enstra Paper</li> <li>Between October and December there were experiences of water leaks from a pipeline that was transporting water but the problem has since been fixed and they have been working closely with Ekurhuleni.</li> </ul>	

	Water Quality for Enstra Paper is not doing very well in terms of COD,	
	Suspended solids and conductivity.	
	A lot of work has been done in-house in terms of water reduction and water treatment and improvement.	
	water treatment and improvement.	
12.5	Enviroserv	
	No representative was present at the forum meeting	
12.6	Ergo	
	A. Barker reported that they would be doing an environmental transition of data but there are some delays on the issue therefore it will be presented when ready.	A. Barker
12.7	Erwat	
	Erwat is waiting for licence amendment. B. Nakene to discuss with Erwat regarding their licence amendment outside the meeting.	
12.8	Gold Plat	
	No representative was present at the Forum meeting	
12.9	Great Basin Gold / Wits Gold	
	No representative was present at the Forum meeting	
12.10		
12.10	Illangabi Investments ( Brikor Mine)	
	There was nothing to report	
12.11	Impala Platinum	
	<ul> <li>Impala Platinum still awaits for WULA amendment feedback. P.</li> <li>Maphakela to follow up on the matter.</li> </ul>	Mr Forie.
12.12	Karan Beef J. Van Niekerk presented a report for Karan Beef and the updates are as	J. Van Niekerk
	follows:	
	Balfour WWTWs is still being upgraded and they are busy with the	
	civil work.	
	Karan Beef is in the process of refurbishment and enlarging of their water treatment Plant.	
12.13	Kimberly-Clark  There was nothing to report	
	There was nothing to report.	
12.14	Largo/Ukufisa Colliery	
	Ukufisa colliery is still continuing with the water quality monitoring and there is nothing more to report other than regular manifering.	
	<ul> <li>there is nothing more to report other than regular monitoring.</li> <li>It suggested that mines should provide relevant licences and RODs to</li> </ul>	
	check if there are any illegal activities taking place in the mines. it was	
	further asked if catchment forums are the correct platforms to address	

	<ul> <li>Such</li> <li>Z. Gebhardt mentioned that air quality reports should not be addressed at this forum as this is a water resource forum however she is more than happy to provide contact number of a DWS official who can assist.</li> </ul>	
12.15	No representative was present at the forum meeting.	
12.16	<ul> <li>Mpact Paper</li> <li>No representative was present at the forum meeting</li> </ul>	
12.17	<ul> <li>New Kleinfontein Goldmine (NKGM)</li> <li>Z. Gebhardt reported that NKGM are going into an EIA process but the consultants will present in the next forum meeting as they are not yet fully prepared.</li> </ul>	
12.18	Sappi  No representative at the Forum Meeting	
13 13.1	NGO's / Other Report Back Gauteng Wetland Forum  The next wetland Gauteng Wetland forum will be held as follows: Venue: Grootvaly Environmental Education Centre Date: 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2019	M. de Fontaine
13.2	<ul> <li>Grootvaly Blesbokspruit Trust</li> <li>M. de Fontaine announced Charl Van has resigned as a trustee of the Grootvaly Blesbokspruit Trust and he will be moving to the Western Cape.</li> <li>Stan Matan has also retired from the trust due to old age.</li> <li>The forum members expressed they sincere gratitude and appreciation to the two individuals for their precious support and dedication to the trust and the Blesbokspruit catchment as a whole.</li> </ul>	
14	Pollution Incidents Noted / Reported	
	No pollution incidents were reported	
15	Discussions of the Additions to the Agenda	
15.1	<ul> <li>M. De Fontaine mentioned that Rand Water together with City of Ekurhuleni took samples at the Cowles Dam to find out what was causing the Cowles dam to turn pink. Preliminary investigations revealed that it was a Bacterium but they were unable to identify which Bacterium it was.</li> <li>International literature indicates that it is high salinity water that allows such Bacterium to proliferate under those conditions therefore the pink colour in the Cowles dam was related to salinity</li> </ul>	M. de Fontaine
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	<ul> <li>A. Maurizi mentioned that extensive investigations were conducted to find out if there are any other direct discharges other than the normal variables in the dam and nothing was found.</li> <li>Z. Gebhardt asked if it is not possible to request organisations like Enstra Paper, Kimberly-Clark and NKGM to present their sampling results at the forum since they are discharging into the Cowles dam</li> </ul>	
15.2	<ul> <li>Phakisa for Water</li> <li>A. Barker wanted to know the date and venue where the Operation Phakisa workshop be held and who are allowed to come to the workshop.</li> <li>The NW&amp;SMP Provincial consultation in preparation for operation Phakisa was held on the 20<sup>th</sup> of March 2019 at the Roodeplaat Training Centre</li> </ul>	A. Barker
15.3	<ul> <li>Rietspruit rehabilitation</li> <li>There is a Rietspruit catchment preliminary Wetland rehabilitation Planning project that was advertised on local newspapers on the 05<sup>th</sup> of February 2019 and the project is done by EIMS Consultants. Notices are out already.</li> </ul>	
16	Next Meeting  Date of next meeting: 09 May 2019  Venue: Grootvaly EE Centre, Springs	
17	<ul><li>Closure</li><li>The chairperson thanked everyone in attendance.</li></ul>	

# **BLESBOKSPRUIT FORUM MEETING ACTION LIST**

Date: 07 February 2019

Time: 10:00 – 13:00



NO	ITEM NO	ACTION	ACTION BY	TIME FRAMES	PROGRESS
1	Item 5; Pg 2	DWS to revise and/or update conditions in the Water Use Licences to say that Organisations and Stakeholders are compelled to attend forums.	DWS	May 2019	Report in the next meeting
2	Item 5; Pg 2	DMR to present the physical outlook regarding the mining applications within Blesbokspruit	DMR	May 2019	Report in the next forum
3	Item 4; Pg 1	Dws to meet with relevant stakeholders situated around Cowles Dam to find out what could be the source of the plume contaminating Cowles Dam	DWS	May 2019	Report in the next meeting
4	Item 9; Pg 7	DWS to engage with CoE Head of Department or relevant officials responsible for Solid Waste Management and Invite them to the Forum	DWS	May 2019	Report in the next forum
5		DWS and GDARD to meet and discuss ways of managing influx of coal mine applications	DWS/ GDARD	May 2019	Report in the next forum
6	Item 10.2 Pg 7	DWS to engage with Jimmy from DMR and invite him to the forum to give regular feedback regarding what's happening in the catchment in terms of mining	DWS	May 2019	Report in the next forum
7	Item 15.1; Pg 11	It was suggested that all water users discharging into the Blesbokspruit should present their discharge results at the forum	All	May 2019	Report in the next forum