

**Minutes of the Grootdraai Dam Forum Meeting held on 23 February 2010 at DWA
Grootdraai Dam Offices**

	Discussion	Action/follow up
1 & 2	<p>Welcome and introduction of attendance and apologies K. Chetty welcomed everyone present to the forum meeting and requested everyone present to introduce him/herself.</p> <p>Apologies: Tebogo Mogakabe (DEDET) Kaizer Khunwane (Xstrata) Ephraim Matseba (DWA Gau-IE) C S Beker (DEDET)</p>	
3	<p>Minutes of previous meeting Minutes were read, corrected and agreed upon by all present.</p>	
4	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p><i>M Ganghaze</i> said that he's not going to present the groundwater modeling as indicated in the minutes.</p> <p><i>P Meulenbeld</i> indicated that DWA issued the directive to New Denmark Colliery and WDCS forms has been submitted but returned to the applicant due to incomplete information.</p> <p><i>K Chetty</i> has circulated the technical document for assessment of WWTW.</p>	<p><i>K Khunwane will do the presentation in the next forum meeting</i></p> <p><i>J Nyama to give feedback on classification of WWTW</i></p>
5	<p>Approval of Agenda Agenda was approved with the following additions: 8.3 Technical Meeting Feedback 8.4 Water Week 2010</p>	
6	<p>Presentations</p> <p>6.1 Rand Water <i>M. Likhetha</i> gave a presentation on the water quality status of the Grootdraai catchment for the period of October 2009 to December 2009. He indicated that when Alkalinity is high it's not acceptable for aquatic life. The Vaal River origin point is at an acceptable level. Water quality status at Brummerspruit was not acceptable for this quarter. Chlorides mostly at an ideal status.</p> <p>6.2 DWA Gauteng Regional Office <i>B. Malatsi</i> gave a presentation on the water quality status of the Grootdraai catchment for the quarter of November 2009 to January 2010. He started by explaining the colour coding to the new members. He indicated that the sulphate concentrations are high for most of the monitoring points around Ermelo due to the impact from the mines. There are some improvements on some of the areas including Amersfoort WWTW. <i>Faecal coliforms</i> and <i>E. coli</i> are unacceptable in the catchment.</p> <p>6.3 Tutuka Power Station Absent without an apology</p> <p>6.4 Camden Power Station</p>	

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	<p>Absent with apology. <i>P Meulenbeld</i> indicated that a meeting was held with the power station about 2 weeks ago. They have a new development of constructing a desalination plant. DWA recommended that they use water from the pan rather than clean water from Usutu-Vaal system. Experienced an excess of water after the recent heavy rainfalls so DWA advised them to adjust their water balances.</p>	
<p>6.5</p>	<p>Majuba Power Station <i>B. Setumonyane</i> delivered presentation on their sewage works. He indicated that they are using General Standard to check compliance. pH, Sulphates and COD does comply but problem is with the phosphates and ammonia especially when the flow is low or no flow.</p>	<p><i>T. Ndamase to report on Majuba Power Station Water Use License application</i></p>
<p>6.6</p>	<p>New Denmark Colliery No presentation without an apology. <i>P. Meulenbeld</i> indicated that a directive has been issued on the 27th of November 2009. The WDCS registration forms has been submitted but returned to the applicant for outstanding information. Also awaiting comments of the draft IWULA.</p>	
<p>6.7</p>	<p>Golfview Mine Absent without an apology. <i>P. Meulenbeld</i> indicated that the site visit will be held tomorrow with the applicant to identify the water uses and discuss their IWULA application. After the recent rains they also experienced problems with excess water on site. Two farmer's dam walls broke during the heavy rains.</p>	
<p>6.8</p>	<p>Xstrata (Spitzkop) <i>M. Ganghazhe</i> gave a presentation on their water quality and developments. He indicated that they are not complying in terms of Sulphates for the Grootdraai Dam catchment. The rehabilitation at Voorslag is in progress and the clean & dirty water separation project has commenced. Low pH was detected on one of the area at about 4 as a result of the impact of the old opencast voids.</p> <p><i>P Meulenbeld</i> mentioned that last month he received an application from applicant who wants to prospect next to Xstrata's discard dumps. <i>M. Ganghazhe</i> was not aware of this application. DWA is concerned that the applicant wants to mine between Xstrata discard dumps next to Breyten/Hendrina road as it seems to be within Xstrata's mining rights area.</p> <p>DWA requested that Xstrata undertake Surface Water study in response to detect source of high sulphate problems. A stream profile of the mining area will also be done. He further indicated that it is hard to predict the possible decanting areas as Spitzkop is a very old mine (started operating in the 1930s). Groundwater study revealed that a possible 4 – 7 Ml/d is expected to decant into the mining area. No pollution incidents reported for the period Oct-Dec 2009. IWULA has been submitted to DWA. Last correspondence from DWA that that the surface water reserve determination was still to be completed by the department. <i>P Meulenbeld</i> indicated that DWA's Letsema Project is addressing the backlog in the licensing process in DWA HO.</p> <p><i>M. Ganghazhe</i> also presented on the progress of their rehabilitation</p>	<p><i>K. Khunwane to report on the surface water study in the next meeting</i></p> <p><i>M. Ganghazhe to investigate further and provide feedback at next meeting</i></p>

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	<p>programme. At the end of 2009 Voorslag area rehabilitated was 410ha. One of the challenges that they are currently facing is that the area does not have enough topsoil.</p> <p><i>P Meulenbeld</i> mentioned issues with silt traps in October 2009 were addressed to <i>K. Khunwane</i> in an email and it is pleasing to note that issue was sorted out timorously by the mine.</p> <p><i>S Mporetji</i> needed clarity on the lease of land. <i>M Ganghazhe</i> said they do have a mineral right but not the land rights. <i>K Chetty</i> enquired about the Greenfields Project. <i>M Ganghazhe</i> indicated he doesn't know much about the project but they have applied for license and DMR requested them to combine the various applications into one application and re-submit.</p>	
6.9	<p>Delta/Mashala</p> <p>Absent without an apology. <i>P Meulenbeld</i> indicated that there was a pollution incident reported. Ermelo received about 80mm of rain in about an hour about 2 weeks ago. One of their pollution control dam collapsed (dam wall breached) and about 50 000m³ of water mixed with silt was discharged. It was reported by the mine. Site visit was done. Dam wall was fixed. Mine must do the necessary rehabilitation. New pollution control dam (30 MI), lined and with silt traps to be built by mine. The new dam designs have been approved by DWA civil engineers. DWA RO questioned whether size of dam was adequate considering the runoff from the catchment. Mine needs to relook at their water balance. For the new Ferreira coal mine, they are no longer undermining the pan and new WULA submitted.</p>	<p><i>K Khunwane</i> to give feedback on the Greenfields project</p> <p><i>Delta Mashala</i> to report on the agreement with Camden Power Station on the V-notch dam</p>
6.10	<p>Mooiplaats/ Coal of Africa</p> <p><i>N Barnard</i> gave a presentation. Mine planning to build 2 slurry dams and three settling dams (all properly lined). Currently do not have a pollution control dam to catch runoff from dirty water areas and as there's not enough space for the dam. Dam will have to be built in the space available with extra trenches and pump stations to accommodate the limited size of the dam. Problems also experienced with the recent heavy rains. WULA still to be submitted.</p> <p><i>P. Meulenbeld</i> indicated that comments have been sent through for the Mooiplaats South Project and DWA stated that no new mine will be approved until the existing mine has been licensed with a WUL. No undermining of the Vaal River will be permitted.</p> <p>The mine has detected high sulphates at most monitoring points and pH is within the required standard. Boreholes will be constructed this year for groundwater monitoring.</p> <p><i>K. Chetty</i> stated that Rand Water also commented on the Mooiplaats South Project and were concerned on the proximity of the mine to the Vaal River.</p>	<p><i>J Nyama</i> to follow up on reusing sewer.</p>
6.11	<p>Umlabu Colliery</p> <p><i>D Slabbert</i> gave a presentation. He indicated that the mine is not operational at the moment (went on care and maintenance in March 2009) but will start operating in June 2010. Monitoring still in progress</p>	

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	<p>and the water quality status will be presented in the next meeting. He further indicated that the coal burning discard has been removed and rehabilitation is in progress. Draft IWULA has been submitted to DWA and the meeting with DWA and consultants was held yesterday (22 Feb 2010). No spills or incidents reported for the last quarter. No new developments. <i>N. Prinsloo</i> asked if they have a plan on the wetland. He responded by saying they will keep water away from the area, the stream is seasonal and they do monitoring around the area. He further indicated that there's an old torbanite mine and they are also monitoring it. Mine to forward location of sampling points to <i>K. Chetty</i> and <i>J. Nyama</i></p> <p><i>P. Meulenbeld</i> indicated that the washing plant will have to be moved out of the wetland. The illegal stream diversion has also been rectified. <i>P Meulenbeld</i> added that torbanite mine was an abandoned mine that would need to be managed by the government and encouraged them to continue with the monitoring</p> <p><i>D Slabbert</i> stated that there is someone who can use sewage effluent to fabricate low cost building bricks. Contact details: Piet Vorster (Crete Crazy, Ermelo 083 242 0235.</p> <p>Oil pollution in Vlakfontein dam (Breyten's drinking water dam) – source will need to be determined (could possibly be the torbanite operations). <i>N Prinsloo</i> indicated that it cost him about R20 000 to purify that water and his borehole is about 500m from the Umlabu siding. DMR is responsible for rehabilitation of abandoned mines.</p>	<p><i>Location of sampling points to be forwarded to K.Chetty or J. Nyama</i></p>
<p>6.12 Imbabala Coal Mine</p>	<p>Absent without an apology. <i>P Meulenbeld</i> indicated that the mine do have a mining right and will undermine the Nootgedacht offices. <i>N Prinsloo</i> said he has never heard anything about the public participation process of that mine. <i>P. Meulenbeld</i> mentioned Wesselton Colliery (next to Imbabala) has closed down.</p> <p><i>ID Lamprecht</i> complained about the sewage running into the river from Ermelo Sewage works. DWA is aware of problem and have met with the Municipal Technical Manager to discuss the problems of the sewage works. DWA issued directive and response was received from municipality – compliance plan received. Apparently R7m has been budgeted for handling the sewage works problems.</p> <p>Query was raised whether the Department of Health should be involved in the forum to deal with the drinking water issues and the diseases arising from drinking unsafe water. <i>J Dunn</i> indicated that Gert Sibande District Municipality are monitoring drinking water and it is on an acceptable status. <i>J. Durgen</i> to forward contact details for Dept of Health.</p>	<p><i>J Nyama to follow up on the sewage running into the river.</i></p> <p><i>J. Durgen to forward contact details for Dept of Health to K. Chetty or J. Nyama.</i></p>
<p>6.13 Thutsi Colliery</p>	<p><i>P. Meulenbeld</i> requested that if any forum members have the contact details for Thutsi Colliery to please forward it to DWA RO.</p>	
<p>6.14 Usutu Coal Mine</p>	<p>Underground mining operations are on care and maintenance. There</p>	

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	<p>could be possible decant from underground.</p> <p>Opencast mine (Vunene coal mine) are mining into the wetlands. <i>P Meulenbeld</i> indicated that they were invited to attend the meeting and also advised to apply for IWULA. DWA did not receive any documentation to comment on from DMR for Vunene coal mine and as well as Vlakfontein application.</p> <p>6.15 Govan Mbeki Municipality <i>M. Machongoane</i> gave a presentation of Bethal's sewage system. Bethal has 9 pump stations and one wastewater treatment works. The WWTW had chlorination problems for the past 2 months and HTH was used for disinfection. It is now in order. Rand Water and DWA were not happy with the water quality results. Most of the variables do not comply due to dysfunction of the pump station and overflowing of sewer lines. Cow Village pump station – the challenge is the pipes material as it is difficult to get and currently waiting for the delivery. The other pumps need an impeller. WULA has not yet been submitted and DWA has requested outstanding information for WDCS registration, which is difficult to get as there are no meter readers installed. <i>New developments:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waterborne Sanitation project • Installation of water-borne system • Refurbishment of sewer plants <p>6.16 Gert Sibande District Municipality <i>J Dunn</i> mentioned that pollution incident of Msukaligwa & Govan Mbeki overflowing of pump stations were reported. He urged to everyone to report the incidents because most of the time the local municipalities failed to report. He further indicated that he can be contacted if the pollution incident is related to drinking water.</p> <p>6.17 Msukaligwa Municipality Absent without apology. <i>P Meulenbeld:</i> A non-compliance letter has been issued to the municipality (Barney van der Merwe).</p> <p>6.18 Pixley ka Seme Municipality Absent without apology. <i>P Meulenbeld:</i> WUL has been drafted and DWA is awaiting comments from the applicant.</p> <p>6.19 Lekwa Municipality <i>V Hlatswayo</i> indicated that the contractors are currently busy cleaning the oxidation ponds and Michael Wells is the one who deals with the project. <i>J Dunn</i> stressed that the District Municipality is not responsible for the maintenance & operation of the sewage works, the local municipalities must budget for this.</p> <p>6.20 Transnet <i>P de Klerk</i> reported on the pollution incident of Transnet Ermelo depot spillage. The valve was left open for the whole night and the diesel spilled into the wetland. Currently the contractor is busy rehabilitating and monitoring the impact. <i>J Nyama</i> asked about the report which was supposed to be submitted to DWA. <i>P de Klerk</i> said he doesn't know about the report but he will follow up with <i>Felix</i>.</p>	<p><i>Vusi to forward contact detail of the technical manager to J Nyama.</i></p> <p><i>P de Klerk to follow up with Felix about the report.</i></p>

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6.21	<p>Mpumalanga Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (MDEDET) <i>S Marebane</i> indicated that their Department has received applications for cemeteries and expansion of the mines. DEDET has decided to embark on audits of the mines which will resume in April 2010.</p> <p>ID Lamprecht wanted to know if the findings of the audits would be available for the public. The response was that it will be presented in the forum meeting.</p>	<i>S Marebane to give feedback on the audit progress.</i>
6.22	<p>Department of Mineral Resources No representative present.</p>	
6.23	<p>DWA-HO <i>K de Villiers</i> gave feedback on the Municipal Technical Support Strategy project. 80% of the WWTW are not authorized in the country. Some of the DWA Regional Offices including Gauteng has indicated that they need technical assistance from Head Office. About 6 WWTW will be funded by DWA per Region.</p>	
7	<p>Catchment Management Agency (CMA) <i>P. Meulenbeld</i> indicated that Ephraim Matseba has been appointed.</p>	
8	<p>General</p>	<i>J Nyama to give feedback of the results of pollution incident</i>
8.1	<p>License Applications Updated during presentations</p>	
8.2	<p>Pollution Incidents Pollution incidents already presented</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delta Mashala (Pollution Control Dam collapsed) • Transnet Ermelo Depot (spillage of diesel) • Bethal sewer system (Pump stations overflowing) <p><i>K Chetty</i> reported the Mooiplaats pollution incidents where there was seepage of ground water recharging the surface. <i>J Nyama</i> has taken the samples to the laboratory. The incident was reported by a farmer.</p>	
8.3	<p>Task Team feedback <i>B Malatsi</i> gave a feedback on the first meeting of the task team; the next meeting will be with Govan Mbeki Local Municipality on the 26 February 2010.</p>	
6.4	<p>Water Week <i>K Chetty</i> indicated that Rand Water is planning to celebrate that with one of the schools in Ermelo. She requested the forum members to forward any school that they can celebrate with.</p>	<i>K Chetty to forward invitations</i>
7.	<p>Closure <i>K. Chetty</i> indicated that she's still waiting for the monitoring point's coordinates of other stakeholders. She thanked all attendees for attending the meeting. The meeting was then closed at 12:40pm.</p>	
8.	<p>Date for Next meeting 25 May 2010, venue to be advised</p>	

NB: copies of presentation are available on request from J. Nyama or K. Chetty

GROOTDRAAI DAM ATTENDEANCE REGISTER 23 February 2010

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