

Minutes of the Grootdraai Dam Forum Meeting held 25 May 2010 at Nooitgedacht, Ermelo

	Discussion	Action/follow up
1 & 2	<p>Welcome and introduction of attendance and apologies <i>K. Chetty</i> welcomed everyone present to the forum meeting and requested everyone present to introduce him/herself.</p> <p>Apologies: Karlien De Villiers DWA Head Office Ephraim Matseba DWA Gauteng Dirk Slabbert Umlabu Colliery Thya Pather DWA Gauteng Tebogo Ndamase Eskom Kaizer Khunwane Xstrata</p>	
3	<p>Minutes of previous meeting Minutes were read, corrected and agreed upon by all present.</p>	
4	<p>Matters Arising from Previous Minutes</p> <p><i>J Nyama</i> gave a feedback on classification of WWTW, Bethal WWTW is the only WWTW classified (class E) but there's still some information outstanding. She further indicated that that the special standards could only be used on stressed catchment and <i>P Meulenbeld</i> indicated that the General Authorisation will be revised.</p> <p>Spillage of sewage near Ermelo WWTW was reported in the last forum meeting and DWA officials went to the site. The spillage stopped but there was a clean water pipe leaking and the contractor was busy on site.</p> <p><i>S Claassen</i> was invited to attend the forum meeting to report on the issue of Morgenson WWTW.</p> <p><i>P Gericke</i> indicated that there's no agreement between them and Eskom regarding the V-Notch and it is believed that the V-Notch belongs to DWA. <i>P Meulenbeld</i> indicated that this has to be included in the Mashala Delta's IWULA.</p> <p>No representative from Transnet to give feedback on the report of pollution incident that occurred at Ermelo Depot which was to be submitted to DWA after the last forum meeting in February 2010.</p> <p>DWA received the results of the pollution incident at Mooiplaats and have since written a letter to Usutu Colliery. Survey study was done and found that the decant point was one of their boreholes which was drilled years back. <i>M Reddy</i> indicated that they are busy drafting the action plan and geohydrological study. The public participation process will start on Monday. <i>S Kruger</i> indicated that Vunene mine will be underground mining in future.</p> <p><i>K Chetty</i> is still waiting for confirmation regarding the Water Week celebration from Xstrata Coal.</p>	<p><i>M Reddy to make a follow-up with Camden concerning the V-Notch</i></p> <p><i>J Nyama to follow –up with Transnet</i></p> <p><i>S Kruger to communicate with Vunene coal mine</i></p>
5	<p>Approval of Agenda Agenda was approved with the following additions: 8.4 Ermelo mines 8.5 Water Monitoring 8.6 Vlakfontein application 8.7 Xstrata feedback</p>	

	Discussion	Action/follow up
	8.8 DWA waste management	
6	Presentations	
6.1	<p>Rand Water <i>K Chetty</i> gave a presentation of water quality status for the period of 1 April 2009 to 31 March 2010 and focusing on the last quarter thereof. The problematic hotspots are Blesbokspruit, Brummerspruit downstream Ermelo and Tweefontein at Riverside. <i>P Meulenbeld</i> indicated that there's a Green Drop Assessment project dealing with the status of the WWTW and WWTW in Mpumalanga scored between 0 and 40%. A risk assessment will be done as well. The information is available on DWA website.</p>	
6.2	<p>DWA Gauteng Regional Office <i>B. Malatsi</i> gave a presentation on the water quality status of the Grootdraai catchment for the quarter of January to March 2010. He highlighted problematic points including the WWTW. DWA is not monitoring Morgenzon WWTW because there are only oxidation ponds. <i>M Reddy</i> indicated that the WWTW water quality results are too high and may cause cholera so there's a need to communicate with the local communities. <i>P Meulenbeld</i> indicated that DWA issues non-compliance letters to the Local Municipalities and there's a Compliance Monitoring Enforcement section within DWA which deals with the legal issues. DWA has stopped routine and ad-hoc monitoring since April 2010, but will start again in June 2010. <i>K Chetty</i> indicated that Rand Water will, in future, report only report on <i>E. coli</i> as Rand Water has changed their analysis methods.</p>	<i>B Malatsi to verify if Davel WWTW is within Grootdraai Catchment</i>
6.3	<p>Tutuka Power Station <i>T. Malotle</i> indicated that they managed to reduce their nitrate concentrations during 3rd & 4th quarter and this project is still in progress. He pointed that the specification results on the Rand Water report was the temporal efforts employed while the project was still put together. A certain company complained about the maturation pond not operating effectively. Chloride concentration was about 50 mg/l. He further indicated that he's going to try to use a new product called BCDHM for chlorination to determine if there will be further improvements on the water quality. Tutuka Power Station IWULA was submitted to DWA in April 2010.</p> <p><i>P Meulenbeld</i> congratulated Eskom on their work on the nitrate removal. He said the efforts displayed that brought about the current results indicated the eagerness of the stakeholder to rectify and comply, a step to encourage others to follow. He further pointed that Tutuka power station will be extended and wastewater containing brine is treated at the New Denmark Colliery plant.</p>	
6.4	<p>Camden Power Station Absent with apology. <i>P Meulenbeld</i> said that Camden want to release water into the river system (control release), which DWA won't allow in the Upper Vaal WMA due to the impacts.</p>	<i>J Nyama to invite Camden Power Station to future meetings</i>
6.5	Majuba Power Station	

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	<p><i>B. Setumonyane</i> presented the water quality status of WWTW. In the last quarter pH was at an acceptable level. Sulphates concentration was high and an application was done for the WWTW classification. COD is analysed once a week, there are no challenges with COD and Ammonia. <i>E. coli</i> is not analysed but faecal coliforms instead. He was advised to put the variable acceptable limits on the presentation. <i>K Chetty</i> indicated that Rand Water experienced a problem accessing the WWTW as the gate was locked despite prior arrangements being made. <i>B. Setumonyane</i> indicated that the gate was locked as it was found in their last ISO audit to be a finding of non-conformance with regards to access control. DWA received IWULA in March 2010.</p>	
6.6	<p>New Denmark Colliery No presentation absent without an apology. <i>P. Meulenbeld</i> indicated that they are still pumping brine to the underground workings, but the process is to be re-examined before October 2010. DWA RO is done drafting IWULA and the licence is now with DWA HO.</p>	
6.7	<p>Golfview Mine <i>S Kruger</i> indicated that Golfview Mine has submitted IWULA for Lieliefontein. <i>P Meulenbeld</i> advised that the application documents must be signed by a professional scientist or engineer as stated in the National Water Act (Act 36 of 1998), otherwise the DWA RO won't accept such an application.</p>	
6.8	<p>Xstrata (Spitzkop) <i>M Ganghazhe</i> indicated that Spitzkop is still busy with their rehabilitation project. There are about 45 possible decanting points on the previously mined area. Water collection system will be put in place to collect water from the decanting points in order to prevent pollution of the water resources. He further pointed out that the underground compounds are not yet filled. He also mentioned that Spitzkop is not discharging any effluent into the water resources</p> <p><i>N Prinsloo</i> pointed that there's a decanting point near the rehabilitated torbanite dump and suggested that Spitzkop take samples from those area, especially SO₄ and Mn. He further requested the forum members to advise him on treatment of water containing oil.</p>	<p><i>Xstrata to take samples from downstream the siding and near the previously torbanite mined area.</i></p>
6.9	<p>Delta/Mashala <i>P Gericke</i> indicated that Delta Mashala is a very complex mine because it has about 3-6 abounded mines within its surface area. There are monitoring points within those abounded mines. Due to this mines there are challenges facing the Humanspruit as the water quality is deteriorating. He further indicated that they will start with construction of the pollution control dams (PCD) soon to prevent further pollution of the water resources. <i>P Meulenbeld</i> added that DWA requested Mashala to increase the capacity of their PCD, which they have done. <i>J Nyama</i> indicated that their application is waiting for Letsema project team decision as they are the one who requested additional information.</p>	
6.10	<p>Mooiplaats/ Coal of Africa <i>N Barnard</i> – Mooiplaats Colliery is surrounded by the stream and the</p>	

	Discussion	Action/follow up
	<p>water quality of the stream is generally good. They are not discharging into the river system. The new pollution control dam tender will start soon and IWULA has been submitted to DWA Nelspruit Office on the 14th May 2010. IWULA will be re-submitted to DWA Gauteng RO. The boreholes have been drilled in order to start with monitoring of groundwater. The application for Mooiplaats South has been submitted to DEA. <i>M Reddy</i> was concerned about the drilled boreholes because they might have an impact on the old Usutu mine workings.</p>	<p><i>N Barnard to follow up on the IWUL application</i></p>
6.11	<p>Umlabu Colliery <i>Absent with an apology</i></p>	
6.12	<p>Imbabala Coal Mine <i>Absent without an apology. P Meulenbeld</i> in the last meeting that was held with the mine, they indicated that their water use licence application will be submitted in June 2010.</p>	<p><i>J Nyama to follow-up on on Imbabala submission of IWULA</i></p>
6.13	<p>Thutsi Colliery No representative present.</p>	<p><i>M Reddy to forward contact details of Thutsi Colliery</i></p>
6.14	<p>Usutu Coal Mine <i>M Reddy</i> mentioned that there was an old illegal dam which was build and the pressure of water has eroded the dam walls. He further said the RoD was received and they will commence with the rehabilitation soon. DWA received a 21 c & I WUL application, is currently with <i>P Ackerman</i> of DWA. Vunene Coal Mine was also advised by DWA to apply for IWULA.</p>	
6.15	<p>Govan Mbeki Municipality <i>M. Machongoane</i> gave a presentation of Bethal's sewage system. A pump was recently installed at one of the pump stations and they are constantly monitoring the pump stations. The Municipal Infrastructure Grant (MIG) for the refurbishment of WWTW and pump stations has been approved. The IWULA has been submitted to DWA Regional Office on the 14th May 2010 and DWA has requested more copies. The municipality will start with the waterborne sanitation project but the capacity of the WWTW is not enough to cater for the proposed project. DWA has not received didn't receive any application regarding the project; definitely DWA wouldn't approve such project if the capacity is not enough.</p>	<p><i>M Machongoane to submit more copies to DWA</i></p>
6.16	<p>Gert Sibande District Municipality <i>J Dunn</i> indicated that they are still facing challenges with regard to Bethal pump stations. Ermelo WWTW is currently under construction; it about 35 % completed and is a 3 years project. Morgenzon WWTW was granted R800 000 for cleaning the oxidation ponds and is about 95% completed. <i>T Mogakabe</i> indicated that their office has not received any application for Ermelo project. <i>J Dunn</i> further indicated that they are not doing any monitoring of WWTW. The water analysis laboratory is now open for commercial purposes and will be accredited sometimes in June 2011. A survey for boreholes in Gert Sibande District has been done and for more information contact Michael Wells. GSDM provide the local municipality with the information regarding Green Drop certification.</p>	<p><i>J Dunn to find out about the EIA application of Ermelo WWTW project.</i></p>

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	<p><i>S Marebane</i> was concerned with the developments starting without environmental a Water Use licence approval and he pointed that DWA must take serious action against such issues. <i>P Meulenbeld</i> responded that the DWA is aware of the situation but if you start with a development without necessary authorisations then your activity is illegal.</p>	
6.17	<p>Msukaligwa Municipality Absent without apology.</p>	
6.18	<p>Pixley ka Seme Municipality Absent without apology. <i>P Meulenbeld</i>: WUL has been drafted and application with Letsema project.</p>	
6.19	<p>Lekwa Municipality <i>S Claassen</i> indicated that they have submitted a business plan and the EIA for WWTW was also submitted. A letter from DWA regarding the Dam Safety was received. There are no funds available for Morgenzon and Standerton WWTW for the next municipal financial year.</p>	
6.20	<p>Transnet Absent without apology</p>	<p><i>J Nyama</i> to follow up on the pollution incident report.</p>
6.21	<p>Mpumalanga Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism (MDEDET) <i>S Marebane</i> gave a presentation; they have not started yet with the audit project due to the transfer of offices. No pollution incidents or application received. He indicated that they have two sub-directorates within the Impact management directorate but communication regarding activities with no EIA can be directed to him. He urged the stakeholders to report pollution incidents. Their audits project will be focusing on the mines because some started without EIA. <i>B Malatsi</i> requested that they engage other authorities about this project. <i>S Marebane</i> further indicated that NEMA was amended in order to align it with the MPRDA, which still in the process of amendment.</p>	<p><i>S Marebane</i> to give feedback about the audits project.</p>
6.22	<p>Department of Mineral Resources No representative present.</p>	
6.23	<p>DWA-HO <i>L Bapela</i> requested to do a presentation in the next forum meeting to give the forum members a clear understand of their mandate/ role within the DWA as well as future projects.</p>	<p><i>L Bapela</i> to prepare a 15 min presentation for the next meeting.</p>
7	<p>Catchment Management Agency (CMA) <i>D Tingitsi</i> gave a brief presentation about the CMA; she mentioned that they are currently working on catchment management strategy of the whole upper Vaal Water Management Area.</p> <p>The Inkomati CMA has already been established and currently busy with the registration of the stakeholders.</p>	

	Discussion	Action/follow up
8	General	
8.1	License Applications Updated during presentations.	
8.2	Pollution Incidents None.	
8.3	Task Team feedback <i>B Malatsi</i> gave a feedback on the first meeting of the task team; the next meeting will be with Lekwa Local Municipality the date is not yet scheduled but will be soon after finishing with Letsema project.	
8.5	Water Monitoring Covered under Xstrata presentation.	
8.6	Vlakfontein application This application is within a sensitive area of Chrissiemeer and Ermelo. DWA won't consider the application, EIA already declined by DWA.	
8.7	Xstrata Feedback (Ermelo stakeholder meeting) <i>K Chetty</i> said the first Ermelo stakeholder meeting was held on the 13 May 2010 in Witbank regarding the proposal of forming a new forum. She suggested that they attend Grootdraai Dam forum meeting in order to determine if there's a need to form a new forum.	
8.8	DWA Waste Management <i>T Pather</i> indicated that Grootdraai Dam Catchment has about 8 waste disposal sites. He's currently busy searching for other waste disposal sites.	<i>T Pather to give a presentation in the next forum meeting</i>
7.	Closure <i>K. Chetty</i> thanked all attendees for attending the meeting. The meeting was then closed at 13:30pm.	
8.	Date for Next meeting 24 August 2010, venue to be advised.	

GROOTDRAAI DAM ATTENDEANCE REGISTER 25 May 2010

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