



**Minutes of the Vaal Dam Catchment Forum Meeting held on 24 November 2011 at Deneysville:
DWA Offices**

| | DISCUSSION | ACTION/FOLLOW UP |
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| 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 F Mamabolo E Matseba</p> | |
| 2. | <p>Approval of Previous Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Previous minutes were not available due to technical problems. | |
| 3. 3.1 | <p>Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Previous minutes were not available due to technical problems. | |
| 4. 4.1 | <p>Additions to the Agenda Save Vaal Dam Presentation</p> | |
| 5. | <p>Water Quality in the Vaal Dam Catchment</p> <p>DWA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> M Manaka presented the Water quality report for the period of August 2011 to October 2011. Spruitsonderdrif D/S of Vrede - there was non compliance of all the variables the past three (03) months. Vaal River @ Villiers - all the variables was unacceptable during August. Delangesdrift Bridge- all the variables were unacceptable towards the end of October 2011. Klip River up Stream of Memel- all variables were unacceptable during October 2011. Standerton up Stream of the Sewage works- All variables were unacceptable during August and October 2011. Vaal River downstream of Standerton WWTW and Spruitsonderdrif D/S of Vrede – the past three months there was non compliance of conductivity at Standerton WWTW, due to Sewage works that are not working. Vaal River @ Villiers- there was non compliance of conductivity and chloride during October 2011. Vaal River @ Villiers and Vaal River downstream of Standerton WWTW- there was non compliance of PH, conductivity, Faecal coliform and E-coli. The cause might be Standerton sewage works that was reported not working the past months. Standerton Sewage Works Final Effluent- the past three (03) months there was non compliance of faecal coliform, E-coli, ammonia and chemical oxygen demand. Villiers Sewage Works- during October 2011 ammonia and chemical oxygen demand were out of specification. | M Manaka |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Orangeville and Deneysville Sewage works- it was reported that in the past three (03) months ammonia was very bad. • Deneysville Sewage works- it was reported that in the past three (03) months chemical oxygen demands was very bad. • Orangeville Sewage works- Faecal coliform and E-coli during October 2011 was out of specification. • The forum asked M Manaka if there are any plans from the Department's side in assisting the Municipalities that are not complying. • M Manaka replied by saying that the department has embarked in a project to help Municipalities that are struggling probably next meeting she will give full information of the project. • R. Hariram requested M Manaka to send him all their sampling points at Deneysville. | <p>M Manaka</p> <p>M Manaka</p> |
| 5.2 | <p>Rand Water</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S Mporetji presented the water quality status for July 2011 to September 2011. • Sandspruit above Volksrust – the past three (03) months there was non compliance in terms of E-coli and conductivity. • Sandspruit below Vaal River @ Kliplaatsdrift- the past three (03) months they had non compliance of E-coli and conductivity due to farming activities in that area. • Klip River @ Barnardskop- all the variables have been acceptable the past three (03) months. • Klip @ Winkelhaak- the past three (03) E-coli has been very bad due to farming activities around that area. • Klip River @ De Langesdrift- there was problem with E-coli the past three months (03). • Spruitsonderdrif Bridge downstream of Vrede- there were problems with nitrates and chemical oxygen demand the past three months due to abattoir next to Vrede. • Vaal River downstream of Standerton- the past three (03) there were non compliance in terms of E-coli, nitrates, conductivity and PH. The cause might be influences in the sewage works. • Gladdedrift Bridge @ Villiers- the past three (03) there were problems with E-coli and conductivity because the flow is too low. • Vaal @ Villiers- the past three (03) there was non compliance in terms of E-coli, COD and chemical oxygen demand due to Villiers water works. • Vaal Dam 4 Integrated-Vaal River upstream of Vaal Marina- there were problems with nitrates and COD. • Vaal Dam 3 Integrated-Wilge River downstream of Oranjeville- the past three (03) there were problems with nitrates and COD. • Vaal Dam 2 Integrated- confluences of Vaal & Wilge- the past three (03) months there were problems with nitrates and chemical oxygen demand. | |
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| 5.3 | <p>Solid Waste Management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • T. Pather reported that at Vaal Marina a Developer was considering donating a portion of land that could be used as a landfill site for Vaalmarina and surrounds. • The forum indicated that they are not happy with Vaal marina as it's not managed properly. • T Pather said he will organize a meeting with Oupa to discuss a way forward and give feedback next forum meeting. | T. Pather |
| <p>6.</p> <p>6.1</p> <p>6.2</p> <p>6.3</p> <p>6.4</p> <p>6.5</p> <p>6.6</p> | <p>Report back from Stakeholders in the Vaal Dam catchment</p> <p>Phumelela Municipality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absent without apology <p>Lekwa Municipality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absent without apology <p>Metsimaholo Municipality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absent without apology <p>Mafube Municipality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Villiers plant is overloaded and they are currently sourcing funds in order to upgrade the plant. • They had problems with the pumps at the pump stations consultants have been appointed in order to address the problem. • Application for Water Use Licence still waiting for the outstanding information from their consultants. • The forum requested N. Radebe to find out if Wilge pump station still operating and report back next meeting. <p>Early Bird Farm</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absent without apology <p>Pixleykaseme local Municipality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absent without apology | N. Radebe |
| 7. 7.1 | <p>Catchment Management Agency (CMA) update (DWAf)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R. Dragana reported that they will be one CMA for the whole Vaal River; however, water management areas will remain the same. | |

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| <p>8.</p> <p>8.1</p> <p>8.2</p> <p>8.3</p> <p>8.4</p> | <p>General</p> <p>Water Use Licence Applications Status</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were no new applications <p>Pollution Incident</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nothing was reported to the Department <p>Save Vaal Dam Presentation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I Main gave a presentation on SAVE (vaaldam). She indicated that the Municipalities needed to work together with the Department of Water Affairs, Rand Water Board and other Government Institutions to solve pollution incidents. <p>Fish Dying Below Vaal Dam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R Hariram gave a presentation on fish dying below Vaal Dam. | |
| <p>9</p> | <p>Closure</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R. Hariram thanked everyone for participating and adjourned the meeting. | |