

WATERVAL FORUM



MINUTES OF THE WATERVAL CATCHMENT FORUM MEETING, HELD ON THE 19th NOVEMBER 2009, AT GOVAN MBEKI MUNICIPALITY, LILLIAN NGOYI CENTER, SECUNDA.

ATTENDANCE

Check attendance register

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	DISCUSSION	ACTION/ FOLLOW UP
1.	<p>WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF ATTENDEES</p> <p>J. Lekoane welcomed all attendees to the Waterval Catchment Forum.</p>	
2.	<p>APOLOGIES</p> <p>2.2. Apologies from the following people were noted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jacky Burke – SR • Florah Mamabolo- DWA • Chris Brooker - CBA • Stephen Mabena – Sasol Synfuel’s • Thembi Masilela – GMM 	
3.	<p>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</p> <p>Minutes were accepted as a true reflection of the previous meeting.</p>	
4.	<p>MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES</p> <p>4.1 F. Mamabolo indicated that the charter could not be discussed as we still have to discuss the in-stream water quality objectives with Mr A. Johnstone from GCS then with the forum members. She further indicated that the in-stream water quality objectives should be agreed with the forum members and the charter will be discussed thereafter. It was agreed that clarity is needed therefore this point should stand over for the next meeting.</p>	F Mamabolo

<p>5.</p> <p>5.1.</p> <p>5.2</p> <p>5.3</p> <p>5.4</p>	<p>ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA</p> <p>New Developments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ J. Linde informed the forum of the notice sent out by Sasol about the gas pipeline between Sasolburg and Secunda <p>Presentation on All Town Studies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Dragana to present in the next meeting. <p>Forum provisional dates for 2010</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ This will be discussed under point 13 (Date of next meeting) <p>Impact of Water Use on the Waterval Catchment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ J. Linde shared his concern about a condition in their Water Use Licence where Sasol is required to determine the contribution of its activities to the mass balance of the surrounding water courses and must cooperate with the other industries and mines in the Waterval Catchment to determine the mass balance for the relevant surface water courses, since currently Sasol Synfuels is the only industry in Waterval Catchment with the water use license. ➤ It was explained that the condition is a general condition for all water uses, therefore other water users in the process of requiring water use license should take note of this requirement. ➤ J. Linde requested a list of water users from DWA, so that he can contact them and take forward the requirement of the condition in Sasol Synfuel water use license. ➤ The forum suggested that this point be a standing point in the agenda, to check on the progress. ➤ There was a concern raised about the representivity of farmers in the forum and what will be their involvement to this study as they are also water users. ➤ It was agreed that J. Lekoane try to get a representative from farmers union to be part of the forum meetings. ➤ Lerato for DWA national office introduced herself and explained operating roles of the Vaal river system. 	<p>Dragana</p> <p>J. Lekoane</p>
<p>6.</p> <p>6.1.1</p>	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>There were no correspondences.</p>	
<p>7.</p> <p>7.1.</p>	<p>FINANCE AND MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS</p> <p>J. Linde mentioned that there is a balance of R2400 in the account. Currently there will not be any invoices sent for renewal of membership but will have to think of doing that in the year 2010.</p>	
<p>8.</p> <p>8.1.</p>	<p>NEWSLETTER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ J. Linde reported that an article was sent out and no comments are received, but the period for comments is until the end of 	<p>J. Linde</p>

	<p>November 2009.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Gail raised her concern about the objective of the forum and that the forum needs to look at the charter at some point in time. She also mentioned that the objective is highly optimistic; awareness raising and newsletter will assist in achieving the objective. 	
9	FEEDBACK	
9.1	<p>Water Quality Report: Rand Water</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ M. Likhetho reported the water quality status and mentioned that the trends have not changed in the 4 quarters and that there was an improvement in the last quarter. ➤ It was noted that the results for the Secunda sewage works for Rand Water are different from Sasol results. K Chetty mentioned that maybe the difference is because of the new method Rand Water has adopted, but will have to check. ➤ J. Linde will have to raise this with Sasol laboratory to make sure of the methods of analysis. 	K.Chetty J.Linde
9.2	<p>Water Quality Report: DWAF</p> <p>J. Lekoane gave presentation with regard to water quality status.</p> <p>J. Lekoane indicated that different water quality guideline were used for different points, she indicated that In-stream water quality guideline for Waterval catchment were used for the points on the streams, for STW special limits for General Authorisation (GA) were used, for Sasol Synfuels Water Use License was used, for Evander Gold Mine the old Permit was used.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ K. Chetty indicated the importance of colour coding for the results and requested J. Lekoane to look into that when compiling the results. ➤ J. Lekoane was also requested to include different tables of compliance on the report; she explained that different standards are used for different points making it difficult to include the tables in the water quality report. Forum members are therefore requested to refer back to the license that was distributed previously for Sasol Synfuel compliance. 	
9.3	Water Quality Report: Govan Mbeki Municipality	
9.3.1	<p>Sthembile reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Evander Waste Water Treatment Works (WWTW) is a class B treatment works. The municipality has experienced poor water quality since they had an electrical problem due to cable fault. 	
9.3.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The analysis are done twice a week in house and taken to ERWAT once a month. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ At Embalenhle WWTW – Only the biological plant is in operation and overloaded because clarifiers are being resealed by the appointed consultant. ➤ eMbalenhle is not complying to General limits in all parameters. ➤ There were reports of overflow due to the blockage of the sump because of the sand. <p>The municipality was advised by DWA to clean up the sludge after overflow of the manholes.</p> <p>The forum members wanted clarity regarding the clean up at the overflowing manhole without damaging vegetation. The municipality requested that they be given an opportunity to go look into the problem and report back during the next meeting.</p> <p>Dragana indicated that municipalities have problems with their WWTW, and reported that there is one municipality in the catchment that was issued with a green drop certificate. She suggested that directives be issued to municipalities, since this problem is on a continuous basis.</p>	Sthembile, GMM
9.4	<p>Drinking Water Quality Report: Govan Mbeki Municipality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It was indicated that there is no problem with drinking water quality around Govan Mbeki Municipality. ➤ Any future complaints can be directed to the Rand Water call centre. ➤ It was agreed that this point be taken out of the agenda. 	
9.5	<p>Harmony Gold Mine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ It was reported that there were no incidences in the last quarter. ➤ The mine will prepare a presentation for the next forum on all other variables tested and quantities abstracted at each site, sampling programme and groundwater monitoring. ➤ The mine was requested to prepare a presentation on Cyanide. 	Harmony Gold
9.6	<p>Sasol Synfuels</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Sasol had several spillages during this quarter and the Department was notified about the spillages. ➤ It was also mentioned that there is a risk identified – the factory is sitting on a watershed, therefore if the southern side pollution is not contained it runs into the natural environment. Currently the feasibility study is undergoing. <p>Sasol indicated that they have written a letter to municipality as they experience high flows during rainy days and suspect infiltration. It was mentioned that communities needs to be made aware of the effects of infiltration so that such incidences should be avoided.</p>	J. Linde

9.7	<p>Sasol Mining</p> <p>There was an incident on the 23rd November and it was reported to DWA and the problem was fixed.</p> <p>It is either the mine will prepare a presentation in the next forum or make information available on their water uses.</p>	Sasol Mining
9.8	<p>FARMERS UNION</p> <p>No representative from the farmer's union</p>	
10.	<p>WATER USE LICENSE STATUS</p> <p>J. Lekoane presented the water use license application status for the activities in the catchment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sasol Synfuels: License issued in November 2008 but the Department is busy with the amendment. • Sasol Mining: Regional Office is still busy with the license. • Govan Mbeki Municipality: The Department awaits the WULA • Harmony Gold Mine: The Department received the WULA and in the process of evaluating it. 	
11.	<p>CMA</p> <p>Vaal Dam Catchment Executive Committee (VDCEC)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dragana to forward minutes for the VBCEC to forum secretary so that they find out the progress on the VBCEC meeting and make arrangements internally for the next VDCEC meeting. 	Dragana
12.	<p>DISCUSSIONS OF ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA</p> <p>Dragana will give a presentation on All Town Studies in the next forum.</p>	Dragana
13.	<p>NEXT MEETING</p> <p>Provisional dates for 2010</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 18 February 2010 ➤ 20 May 2010 ➤ 19 August 2010 ➤ 18 November 2010 ➤ Meeting to be arranged at Lillian Ngoyi center at Govan Mbeki Municipality for future forum meetings. 	
14.	<p>CLOSURE</p> <p>J. Lekoane thanked all for attending the meeting and adjourned the meeting.</p>	

