

WATERVAL FORUM



MINUTES

21 May 2015

GOVAN MBEKI MUNICIPALITY, Lillian Ngoyi Center, Secunda

10:00 – 13:00

| NO. | ITEM | ACTION/ FOLLOW UP |
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| 1. | <p>WELCOME</p> <p>Chairperson welcomed all attendees to the Waterval Catchment Forum and introduced himself as the chairperson of the forum.</p> | J Linde |
| 2. | <p>INTRODUCTION OF ATTENDEES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All the attendees introduced themselves. | |
| 3. | <p>APOLOGIES</p> <p>Apologies from the following people were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gideon Vosloo – Farmers • Carel Dirker – Brendan Village • Karlien de Villiers – DWS • Florah Mamabolo - DWS • Ephraim Matseba – DWS • Harriet Groenewald - DWS | |
| 4. | <p>MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</p> <p>CORRECTIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • P4. 10.6. Representative reported that water quality was good for the past three months; however there were instances of elevated conductivity. • P4. 11. The Chairman requested that the context of the discussion also be captured to ensure that the minutes are as clear and concise as possible. | |
| 5. | <p>MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING</p> <p>(21 May 2015)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • T Johnson was tasked to address the issue of illegal dumping at EMBalenhle landfill site. • F Mamabolo answered that T Johnson did not give them feedback and she did not attend the meeting. • The chairperson requested F Mamabolo to give feedback in the next meeting. • DWS and Rand Water were tasked to compare the RQOs for the Waterval Catchment with previous instream objectives and give feedback in the next meeting. • Rand Water answered that the discussions to compare the objectives took | |

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| | <p>place.</p> <p>Jurgo van Wyk noted that the concerns voiced by some forum members at the previous meeting stemmed from the fact that the RQOs seemed to be much more lenient than the guidelines being used to report on water quality at the forum. Rand Water, DWS Gauteng and DWS Water Quality Planning (WQP) subsequently held a meeting in December 2014. The resulting summary of discussions and recommendations had been circulated to the forum for comments on the 09 March 2015. There will be an opportunity to formally comment on the RQO's as they still need to be gazetted. Jurgo Van Wyk (DWS: Water Quality Planning) noted the RQO process was run by the Water Ecosystems section of the Department. He suggested that Ms. B Sejamoholo be requested to provide a generic presentation on this process and how it relates to the Waterval catchment at the next meeting. His section could then also provide a brief presentation on the summary of all the instream objectives.</p> | <p>Head Office DWS (Water Ecosystems and Water Quality Planning)</p> |
| 6. | <p>ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No additions to the agenda | |
| 7. | <p>CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>Nothing to report.</p> | |

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| 8. | <p>FINANCE AND MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were no expenditures and the balance is still estimated to be twenty five thousand (R25 000). • Signing right will be done in September 2015; Reason being that the person to assist on this matter is on maternity leave. | <p>J Linde</p> |
| 9. | <p>NEWSLETTERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • J Linde mentioned that he needs someone who can volunteer to assist in terms of getting the newsletter published. • Rand Water answered that they will continue assisting with the administration of the newsletter. Tokkie Reinecke (Afriforum) indicated that she would be willing to assist to get the newsletter published. | |
| 10. | <p>FEEDBACK FROM STAKEHOLDERS</p> <p>10.1 RAND WATER Water Quality report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rand Water presented water quality status for the catchment from 1 January to 31 March 2015. | |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WAW – there was improvement of chloride and fluoride the past three months. • WAT – there was an improvement in Alkalinity and COD for this quarter. • WAR – There was an improvement in all variables although the colour coding still shows unacceptable levels due to the Vaal Dam guidelines being adopted. • WAE – There was an improvement in all variables for the year due to the dilution and assimilation effect of the larger catchment at this monitoring point. • Evander sewage works – there was non – compliance of ammonia, and COD and e.coli for the past year • Embalenhle sewage works – non-compliance in ammonia for the last year, improvement in COD and e.coli for this reporting quarter. • Secunda sewage works – there was non – compliance of E – Coli the past three months. | |
| 10.2 | <p>DWS Water Quality report :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nothing to report. Feedback will be given in the next meeting. | J Lekoane |
| 10.3 | <p>DWS Waste Management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Absent without apology. | |
| 10.4 | <p>GOVAN MBEKI MUNICIPALITY (EMbalenhle & Evander)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S Makhomboti introduced herself as the new plant manager, noting that she had started in January 2015 and that this was her first forum meeting. • Evander WWTW – most of the variables were not complying due to chlorinator which was not functional. • Ext 18 EMbalenhle pumps station - There is a project to upgrade WWTW pump station. The project is funded by Sasol • Ext 22 EMbalenhle pumps station – long time ago it was decommissioned, after the survey the municipality discovered that some of the houses are no longer connected to the new line. Pump station was re – commissioned. • It was noted that although the Municipality was largely non-compliant to the effluent discharge requirements, there were a number of interventions that have and will be put in place to improve this. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The municipality have conducted and will continue to conduct awareness campaigns (one each quarter) educating communities not to dump erroneous materials into the sewer line (i.e. what and what to flush). They are also requesting information on manholes that have been stolen (it serves as an access point for dumping). In the future they plan to map all the man holes and to fund new covers which are not so easy to remove. – A condition assessment on the pumps was conducted in January 2015. This served as baseline information for the formulation of a maintenance plan. The maintenance schedule has been completed and funds to implement the | |

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| | <p>schedule are now required. This will need to be included in the budget for the new financial year (which starts on 01 July 2015).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – They have also identified low, medium and high risk stations and stations requiring back-up pumps. High risk stations are to be prioritized but the aim was to have stand-by pumps at all stations – The municipality also aims to upgrade the flow meters at the plants, with the inflow and outflow being priority locations. – The municipality also plans to introduce improved operational monitoring in the new financial year - there are things that must be monitored for each shift in order to improve plant operation. – Vandalism is the greatest threat and one of the priority interventions that is required is improved security. • The chairperson requested the municipality to distribute an action plan (with due dates) on how they are planning to resolve WWTW non – compliances. • The forum suggested that stakeholders that are not happy with the municipalities plan to write a letter to the municipality manager indicating as much. • One of the Forum attendees expressed his frustration and concerns regarding the lack of the municipalities’ performance. • S Makhomboti indicated that she was dedicated to improving the situation and was hoping that this would have been evident during her presentation. She indicated that she did not appreciate the disparaging manner in which we was being approached this kind of attitude will stop municipality to attend the meetings. She further requested that complains or questions must be done in a respective manner. • The chairperson mentioned that the attitude is not directed to individual or the presenter but to the municipality. He further indicated that the presenter must bear in mind that municipality has not addressed most of complains that have been reported to them. • The chairperson also requested stakeholders to raise questions in a respective manner He also encouraged the municipality to attend forum meetings in the future. | |
| 10.5 | <p>EVANDER GOLD MINE Water Quality report :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B Conradie mentioned that the past three months water quality has improved. • B. Conradie confirmed that he will forward his presentation for distribution to the forum members. | |
| 10.6 | <p>SASOL SECUNDA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RESM-1 (which is seen as the final compliance point for the Sasol Secunda complex) WQO’s were not exceeded during the reporting period. • RESM 7 – Of the weekly samples taken, the WUL limit for conductivity was only exceeded on one occasion during the reporting period. | |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RESM 10 – Of the weekly samples taken, the WUL limit for conductivity was only exceeded on one occasion during the reporting period. • All of the Green Drop System parameter scores were excellent except for Microbiological which is as a result of the 0 CFU/100ml limit specified within the WUL. It has to be noted however that even though there was instances where the Secunda sewage works did not comply with the limit, very low counts were still measured. | |
| 10.7 | <p>SASOL MINING</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nothing to report. | |
| 10.8 | <p>TAUNG GOLD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Downstream and upstream water quality results will be presented in the next meeting. • The forum wanted to know what will happen about the new employees of Taung Gold in Waterval area. • Representative answered that Taung Gold is in consultation with GA sewer system. There is a possibility that the sewer line might be upgraded. . | |
| 10.9 | <p>FARMERS UNION/COMMUNITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. A. Jankowitz highlighted problems like non-functional sewage plants and raised his concern with the perceived lack of action to rectify the situation. He also stressed that this situation has been continuing for a number of years. • The chairperson wanted to know how many farmers in the Waterval catchment area are registered as water users. • Representative indicated that he is not happy that DWS have not addressed their request. • The chairperson answered that he will address this matter with F Mamabolo. | <p>DWS J Linde</p> |
| 10.10 | <p>BRENDAN VILLAGE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nothing to report as no discharge is taking place from Brendan Village into a Water Resource. | |
| 11. | <p>DWS WATER USE LICENSE STATUS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sasol Mining (Pty) Ltd: Borrow Pit Project – still in the region, undergoing assessment. • Sasol Mining (Pty) Ltd: Irene dale dam – WULA’s undergoing assessment. • Sasol Synfuels – applicant submitted the documents for review, undergoing assessment. • Govan Mbeki construction of Albert Sisulu road WULA – still in progress. | |

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| 12. | CMA PROCESS <ul style="list-style-type: none">• E Matseba gave an apology. | |
| 13. | DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA None Dam Safety presentation will be discussed in the next meeting. | |
| 14. | NEXT MEETING DATES <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 20 August 2015• 19 November 2015 | |
| 15. | CLOSURE OF MEETING J Linde thanked everyone for participating and adjourned the meeting at 14H30. | Chairperson |