



MINUTES OF MEETING

**Algoa Reconciliation Strategy: Administrative and Technical Support Group Meeting
Held on 22 November 2011 at the offices of Aurecon, Port Elizabeth**

Item		Action																																																					
1.	WELCOME The chairman, Ms Isa Thompson welcomed everybody to the meeting.																																																						
2.	ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES Attendance <table><tr><td>Ms Isa Thompson</td><td>DWA: NWRP (S)</td><td>IT</td></tr><tr><td>Mr Archington Thobejane</td><td>DWA: NWRP (S)</td><td>AT</td></tr><tr><td>Ms Siziwe Blie</td><td>DWA: DD:IE</td><td>SB</td></tr><tr><td>Mr Theo Geldenhuys</td><td>DWA: CE: Water Resources Management</td><td>TG</td></tr><tr><td>Ms Rienette Colesky</td><td>Gamtoos IB</td><td>RC</td></tr><tr><td>Mr Martin Labuschagne</td><td>DWA: ECRO: WR&U-WUE</td><td>ML</td></tr><tr><td>Mr Stephen Mullineux</td><td>DWA: DCE: Water Use Regulation</td><td>SHM</td></tr><tr><td>Mr Stan Groenewald</td><td>NMBM</td><td>SG</td></tr><tr><td>Mr Stuart Ferguson</td><td>NMBM</td><td>SF</td></tr><tr><td>Mr Paul du Plessis</td><td>NMBM</td><td>PdP</td></tr><tr><td>Mr Dup van Reenen</td><td>AfriCoast Engineers SA</td><td>DvR</td></tr><tr><td>Mr Erik van der Berg</td><td>Aurecon</td><td>EvdB</td></tr><tr><td>Ms Reina Zastron</td><td>Aurecon</td><td>RZ</td></tr></table> Apologies <table><tr><td>Mr Menard Mugumo</td><td>DWA: OA (S)</td></tr><tr><td>Mr Koos Viljoen</td><td>DWA: NWRI</td></tr><tr><td>Mr Elias Nel</td><td>DWA: WRPS</td></tr><tr><td>Ms Celiwe Ntuli</td><td>DWA: WRPS</td></tr><tr><td>Mr Pieter Viljoen</td><td>DWA: WRPS</td></tr><tr><td>Ms Jenny Pashkin</td><td>DWA: WRPS</td></tr><tr><td>Mr Pierre Joubert</td><td>Gamtoos IB</td></tr></table>	Ms Isa Thompson	DWA: NWRP (S)	IT	Mr Archington Thobejane	DWA: NWRP (S)	AT	Ms Siziwe Blie	DWA: DD:IE	SB	Mr Theo Geldenhuys	DWA: CE: Water Resources Management	TG	Ms Rienette Colesky	Gamtoos IB	RC	Mr Martin Labuschagne	DWA: ECRO: WR&U-WUE	ML	Mr Stephen Mullineux	DWA: DCE: Water Use Regulation	SHM	Mr Stan Groenewald	NMBM	SG	Mr Stuart Ferguson	NMBM	SF	Mr Paul du Plessis	NMBM	PdP	Mr Dup van Reenen	AfriCoast Engineers SA	DvR	Mr Erik van der Berg	Aurecon	EvdB	Ms Reina Zastron	Aurecon	RZ	Mr Menard Mugumo	DWA: OA (S)	Mr Koos Viljoen	DWA: NWRI	Mr Elias Nel	DWA: WRPS	Ms Celiwe Ntuli	DWA: WRPS	Mr Pieter Viljoen	DWA: WRPS	Ms Jenny Pashkin	DWA: WRPS	Mr Pierre Joubert	Gamtoos IB	
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3.	PURPOSE OF THE MEETING The purpose of the meeting is to follow up on the identified actions of the Strategy Steering Committee (SSC) meeting of 8 September 2011.																																																						
4.	ADOPTION OF AGENDA The agenda was approved with the following comments: Only SSC agenda items 5.9 and 5.25 to be discussed under point 6, because relevant matters arising from the SSC Meeting1 Minutes, as all other items are on the agenda.																																																						

Item		Action
5.	PSP REPORT BACK	
5.1	SSC Meeting of 8 Sep 2011 The meeting was informed that SSC meetings would be held twice-annually, the first of which was held on 8 September, 2011. Administrative and Technical Support Group (ATSG) meetings would be held 6 weeks before and 2 weeks after the steering committee meetings, i.e. at least four meetings per year. For any critical issues, ad hoc meetings could be called.	
5.2	Status Report and Media Release The status report was distributed to all members. IT asked that the final (shortened) media release be distributed to all members. This media release could be further disseminated by members as seen fit.	RZ
6.	RELEVANT MATTERS ARISING FROM SSC1 MINUTES	
	Only points 5.9 and 5.25 from the SSC minutes were discussed under this heading, as other points were covered by the agenda.	
6.1	Financing of NMBM implementation plans EvdB broached the subject of evaluation of alternative ways of the financing of new bulk water infrastructure for NMBM, in terms of the Strategy. IT indicated that the responsibilities lie with other bodies, unless they ask DWA for help, and that financing of further bulk water infrastructure is NMBM's responsibility. SG said that the NMBM did a presentation to National Disaster Management in July 2011 and no feedback has been received since. The intention of the NMBM is to take the matter of alternative finance up with Ashley Starkey. IS stressed that the NMBM has to find other means of finance as the Metro is not a disaster area any more. She further advised that the possibility of receiving further funding from National Treasury is very slim.	NMBM
6.2	Establishment of Langkloof irrigators WUA SB indicated that the intention is to establish the Langkloof WUA within the next year.	SB
7	WATER USE AND DEMAND	
7.1	Change depiction of water use to Jul-Jun Evdb indicated that the annual water use of the system will be changed from January-December to July-June. This makes sense as it will fit the financial year of the metro.	EvdB
7.2	Water use license application to abstract from Kouga-Loerie system Because NMBM extracts more water from Loerie Dam after refinement of its operating rule, they have to apply for a water use license for an increased abstraction allocation. The prospect of applying for a license for a full abstraction from the total system was raised. IT indicated the NMBM has to meet with the local DWA office to discuss this issue, as all abstractions from the Algoa system needs to be addressed.	NMBM / DWA-EC
7.3	Verification and validation study of the Langkloof area SB indicated that the funding of this study remains a problem. R3 million has been	

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	secured, and the approval from DEBAC is awaited. TG mentioned that the local adjudication committee will go on a site visit during the following week, to acquaint themselves with the study area. Only a part of the Langkloof area will be covered under this proposed appointment.	NMBM
8 8.1	IMPROVING THE CONFIDENCE OF WATER AVAILABILITY Water availability assessment – Kouga-Loerie and Churchill-Impofu IT said that the water availability assessment study (WAAS) would only start once the verification and validation study of the Langkloof area was nearing completion or at least far advanced. The study would probably only start towards the end of 2012.	IT
9 9.1 9.2	OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY Operating capacity of Darlington Dam The following information was received from Dewald Coetzee after the meeting: The maximum operating capacity of Darlington Dam is currently 43% (78 million m ³) of its full storage capacity (181 million m ³). After completion of the rehabilitation work it will be possible to store up to plus minus 181 million m ³ . The increase in the storage capacity of the dam will lower the risk in terms of upstream failures in the system. The optimum operating level for Darlington Dam must be determined to ensure that there is no deterioration of the water quality when operating at a higher dam level. Additional balancing storage in LWRGS The issue of enlargement of the capacity of the Scheepersvlakte Balancing Dam and canal needs to be taken up between NMBM, Dewald Coetzee of DWA NWRI: Southern Operations and Menard Mugumo (MM) of DWA Options Analysis. On reply to SG's question, IT indicated that DWA needs to urgently initiate the meeting.	DC MM
10 10.1 10.2	WC/WDM Guidelines for effective use of rainwater tanks SG indicated that NMBM's bylaws included a section on WC/WDM. The NMBM is considering adding a clause to make rainwater tanks compulsory for all new building plan approvals. IT mentioned that people need to be sensitised to maximise the use of rainwater and minimise municipal water use. The NMBM needs to convey the message that rainwater is not fit for drinking. Report on Progress per Municipality SG indicated that this is an ongoing issue which is often difficult to quantify in-between official reporting. The real losses of 10/11 have been compared with those of 09/10. Losses in 2009/2010 were 31.6% compared with 26.2% in 2010/2011. This could mean a saving of approximately 10 MI per day. SG reported on the Blue Drop status of NMBM. The leaks-repair tender for schools has closed and is now in the evaluation phase, which should be concluded by end-December. IT mentioned that the NMBM has to ensure that the water use of schools that have been repaired doesn't go up again. SG assured her that the system will alert them.	NMBM

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10.3	<p>Repairs at the ATTP houses are ongoing and are going according to plan. Flow limiters are being installed, but are yet not operational.</p> <p>R1.5 million was awarded to Kouga LM to undertake leaks repairs. Such repairs will first be done in Humansdorp.</p> <p>Combining the water campaign with the electricity campaign</p> <p>The idea tabled by DWA was to combine water supply with solar heating. SG mentioned that a booklet that addressed such a combined campaign was created for a door-to-door campaign, but was cancelled after the drought had broken, as the cost of this campaign would have been R 5 million. IT proposed the NMBM consider dropping the booklets at the schools.</p>	
11	<p>ORANGE RIVER INTER-BASIN TRANSFER SCHEME</p> <p>11.1 Nooitgedagt Low Level Scheme (NLLS) Implementation</p> <p>Two pipeline contracts have been awarded and are underway. Progress is on track, with a few minor teething problems. The civil contract for two pump stations has been awarded and the WTW upgrade contract (emergency storage) had just been awarded.</p> <p>11.2 License application by NMBM for increased abstraction</p> <p>The recently-awarded license has been approved for a period of twenty years.</p> <p>11.3 Trading of Orange River Irrigation Authorisations – Upper Fish River</p> <p>The possibility of this trading stays on the table for the municipality to consider. SHM indicated that this is cheap water. The purchase of land currently ranges from about R 22 000/ha for undeveloped land to about R 120 000/ha for land with irrigation infrastructure in place. The most expensive water would thus be about R 1.13/m³, which is very favourable in comparison with alternative options.</p> <p>11.4 Orange River water use evaluation: Phasing of Orange River water use, synergies of Coega IDZ desalination option and Scheepersvlakte Balancing Dam storage</p> <p>This matter will be discussed at a later stage.</p> <p>11.5 Desalination of Sundays River irrigation return flows</p> <p>SHM reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The levels and water quality (only in mS/m) at the new Poplar Grove site in the Lower Sundays River have been continuously read (i.e. 24 hours per day) since February 2010, except for 2 periods of about 3 weeks each when floods damaged the instrumentation, which had to be replaced on both occasions. • The controlled flow section has changed to a new stable configuration since the 2 flood events, and a new survey of the site will soon be done so that the levels can be converted into flows by means of a revised calibration. • The survey of the antediluvian state which was done before February 2010 has also been subject to a query (on the gauge plate levels), which means that the flows of that period cannot be validated as yet. Once the new survey has been done this earlier survey will be corrected if necessary – meaning the record of continuous flows and mS/m water quality determined since February 2010 (except for the two flood damage periods). • As the gauging station is not part of the national network, the records are kept only at the Cradock Hydrology Offices. Mr Duppie Erasmus (tel 048 881 3006) is the 	NMBM

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	<p>contact person for these readings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Erasmus mentioned that as there have been generally good rains in the area since August 2010, the readings accumulated to date have been higher than normal and he thus feels that these cannot be regarded as typical long-term low flows, which would probably involve a high component of irrigation return flows. 	
<p>12</p> <p>12.1</p> <p>12.2</p>	<p>RE-USE OF WATER</p> <p>Potential integrated re-use of water</p> <p>It was agreed that the potential for integrated re-use of water in NMBM was largely addressed by the Coega Master Plan. DvR reported that he was involved in the updating of the Master Plan. He noted that there is significant uncertainty related to future development of Coega IDZ and the potential for re-use of water.</p> <p>Indirect re-use of water treated to potable standards – new intervention</p> <p>An alternative option for reuse of potable water has been tabled, making use of surplus effluent from Fishwater Flats WWTW that could be recycled via Loerie Dam. This intervention will be documented in the standard 3-pager format, to be disseminated with the minutes. This option could be mutually exclusive with the raising of Kouga Dam.</p>	<p>DvR</p>
<p>13</p> <p>13.1</p> <p>13.2</p> <p>13.3</p>	<p>GROUNDWATER</p> <p>After the meeting, the following contribution was received from Ricky Murray of Groundwater Africa:</p> <p>NMBM Groundwater Scheme study in progress</p> <p>Numerous borehole sites have been pegged in the Coega Kop, Humansdorp and Churchill Dam areas. Drilling will commence as soon as a contract can be finalised and once budgets are secured. Other areas such as Maitland Mines and the Gamtoos Valley will be pursued but are not priority, and reporting on all aspects of the project, e.g. hydro-census, test pumping and borehole siting will be done early in 2012. Final MT-geophysics will be done near Coega Kop and Humansdorp, once electricity has been turned off in these areas. This is planned for Jan/Feb 2012.</p> <p>NMBM has called for tenders for the drilling of production boreholes (3-year contract) twice, but both tenders have been unresponsive, because the tenderers are inexperienced in tendering.</p> <p>It will now be established whether the recently-signed DWA term tender can be used for the NMBM drilling. The indications from DWA and NMBM are however positive. This will be assessed in January 2012, and the drillers still need to confirm that they can do the job.</p> <p>DWA borehole information – to be made available to Kouga LM</p> <p>The final report on the drilling target areas will be completed in early 2012, and will be made available to Kouga LM.</p> <p>Capping of unused artesian boreholes</p> <p>An updated report on the status on these boreholes will be compiled in early 2012. Since it will be almost impossible (or very costly) to cap these boreholes, the strategy is to drill the new production boreholes and keep them in running so as to drop the pressure in the aquifer and prevent free-flowing artesian water. This has been discussed</p>	<p>RM</p> <p>NMBM</p> <p>RM</p>

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13.4	<p>at meetings with DWA participation, and is considered the best option.</p> <p>Wellfield monitoring - monitoring of well-field abstractions and groundwater levels</p> <p>A strategy will be put in place after the drilling and test pumping has been completed. It will involve automated monitoring with frequent analysis and regular reporting.</p>	NMBM
14	SEAWATER DESALINATION	
14.1	<p>NMBM desalination scheme</p> <p>It was agreed that a desalination plant for NMBM was now of low priority. The Swartkops Desalination plant designs would be put on ice, as a potential emergency scheme, should it be needed. In the longer run a larger scheme that the Swartkops Scheme would be needed and alternative sites for desalination would need to be identified.</p>	NMBM
14.2	<p>Seawater desalination: Coega IDZ/ Straits Chemicals</p> <p>This option currently seemed very unlikely. A seawater intake for a limited amount may in any case prove to be prohibitively expensive.</p>	
14.3	<p>Monitoring of Seawater Quality</p> <p>The monitoring of sea water quality was done for the proposed desalination plant at Swartkops, but such data could not be used for a larger desalination scheme at a different location.</p> <p>DvR would liaise with the NMMU regarding monitoring activities. IT mentioned that monitoring of seawater is needed for at least a period of 3 years, to ensure correct design of desalination plants. Such monitoring should be initiated once new desalination sites have been identified/screened. SG mentioned that the NMBM also needs to know what determinants to monitor. The NMMU as well as Mike Killick of Aurecon can be contacted for assistance.</p>	DvR NMBM
15	LOCAL SURFACE WATER DEVELOPMENT	
15.1	<p>Kouga Dam safety work in light of potential raising</p> <p>A Kouga Dam rehabilitation meeting was planned for 23 November. Following the meeting, it has been agreed that DWA would evaluate and consider the possibility of making provision for the raising of the dam, during the rehabilitation activities. This would need some time to investigate, but no timetable has been provided.</p>	
16	ECOLOGICAL RESERVE	
16.1	<p>Implementing the Reserve for existing dams</p> <p>Patsy Sherman (PS) will send the Reserve study main report for the Kromme/Seekoei Comprehensive Reserve determination study to Dewald Coetzee.</p> <p>An evaluation of the potential implementation of the Reserve for other existing dams of the Algoa system needs to be done. The rest of the dams need to be investigated by the Kouga team. Isa will address this issue, inclusive of the Kouga, Scheepersvlakte and Darlington dams.</p>	PS IT
17	CLIMATE CHANGE	

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17.1	Climate change impacts study It was agreed to address this at a later stage.	
18.	GENERAL ML mentioned a body called the South African Revenue Protection Group, who he has been asked to give a presentation to regarding water demand management. It is a national body that addresses the protection of revenue for water and electricity. They are apparently investigation the situation at specific towns. ML will find out more about them and report back.	ML
19.	NEXT MEETING The next meeting will take place on 7 February 2012 at 13h30.	
20.	CLOSURE The meeting was adjourned at 15h45.	