

DEPARTMENT: WATER AFFAIRS AND FORESTRY AMATOLE SYSTEM RECONCILIATION STRATEGY

SUPPORT GROUP MEETING

MINUTES OF SUPPORT GROUP MEETING No. 1 HELD ON 13 MAY 2009 AT 14H00 AT HAMILTON'S SPORTS CLUB EAST LONDON

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION IT welcomed all to the first Strategy Support Group meeting, and asked everyone present to introduce							
nemselves.							
TIENDANCE	AND APOLOGIE	:5					
ttendance:							
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CCEPTANCE	OF AGENDA						
wo agendas w	ere provided as a	auide for	the inception	meetina. The	first specifically for the		
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ception meetin	ng and the second	d more de	tailed version,	to be used for	r all subsequent meetings		
nuide for curre	nt discussions).						
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		ACTIC		
BACKGROUND TO RECONCILIA	ATION STRATEGY			
Administrative Matters				
IT provided GC with a CD of the Strategy Report. All others present stated that they each				
had a copy.				
WK to ascertain whether Amatola	Water have copies of the reports.	WK		
Objective of the Strategy				
IT explained that DWAF had commissioned a Reconciliation Strategy Study for the Amatole				
Bulk Water Supply System (ABW	SS), which was completed during 2008. The objective of			
	egy to ensure that predicted future water demands can be			
	WSS going forward, i.e. to create a decision support			
	cision making to ensure sustainable water supplies for the			
next 25 years.				
This Chartenny, which will entril me				
This Strategy, which will entail monitoring water use and water availability, ensuring further				
and maintained. Hence the purpo	ation of relevant strategies, now needs to be implemented			
	se of the meeting.			
A key outcome of the Reconciliati	ion Strategy, was that the following institutional structures			
be constituted, to facilitate the imp	lementation and management of the Strategy:			
Structure	Responsibility			
Strategy Steering Committee	Ensure the implementation of recommendations;			
	Review and update the Strategy; and			
	Communicate the Strategy.			
Strategy Support Group	Support to the Strategy Steering Committee			
Administrative & Technical	Support to the Strategy Steering Committee and the			
Support Team	Strategy Support Group.			
It was advised that the Strategy	Support Group meetings would be held quarterly, and			
the Strategy Steering Committee				
IT provided WK with templates	of the Terms of Reference for the above institutional			
IT provided WK with templates of the Terms of Reference for the above institutional Structures, based on the Western Cape Reconciliation Strategy. WK to amend these to				
suite and pass them to IT for perusal before circulation to all parties.				
Those present put forward names of persons and alternatives for the various structures.				
It was agreed that WK would draft these lists and pass them to IT for perusal prior to				
circulation for final approval.				



		ACTION
	A further outcome of the Reconciliation Strategy was that the existing loosely-constituted Technical Operations Committee (TOC) be strengthened / capacitated, to become a formalised body with clear terms of reference. The committee will be referred to as the Amatole System Operations Co-ordination Committee (ASOCC). A decision as to where the ASOCC fits in with the other committees is still to be determined. It was proposed that it be a sub-committee to the Strategy Steering	ALL
	Committee.	
	 It was agreed that WK would: Compile an organogram for consideration; Draft a list of members based on the input from the floor; and Forward same to IT for perusal and input prior to circulation for finalization. 	WK WK WK
5.3	Recommendations from the Strategy WK read out a draft summary of the recommendations from the Strategy. IT requested that WK prepare a table documenting all the recommendations (and additional recommendations) from the Study as well as an Executive Summary of the Strategy, for circulation to and use by the Strategy Steering Committee. The Executive Summary should incorporate the following:	WK
	Background;	
	> Options;	
	 Water resources and management; How water use and demand will be reconciled; and 	
	 Main recommendations in terms of reconciliation. 	
	IT provided a template to be used, based on the Western Cape Reconciliation Strategy, for the Executive Summary.	
	 IT asked WK to consolidate the list of projects / studies proposed in the Strategy, indicating: Those responsible to implement the project / studies; and The specific time lines for the recommendations/ projects. 	wк
	IT requested WK to update the water requirements, for use in the Decision Support Tool. WK advised that progress in this regard was underway but that there was a need to meet with Stakeholders in this regard, to ensure that the appropriate / correct figures were being collected / collated and that they could be readily replicated in the future for subsequent updates.	WK/GC/SR



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		ACTION
6. 6.1	RELEVANT ONGOING STUDIES <i>Operation Rules Study(DWAF):</i> JP confirmed that the next Operating Rules Study meeting will be held on 23 rd June 2009 (a day before the Strategy Steering Committee Meeting), and stressed the importance of communication between the two initiatives, to ensure that they are aligned and that there is no duplication of certain work activities.	
	 The main objective of the Study is to: Ensure that the water system for this area never fails i.e. recommend restrictions in times of drought; Investigate how to use water optimally (focus on a 5 year rolling period); 	
	WK to forward a copy of the BCM Master Plan to JP.	WK
	WK to attend the Operating Rules Study meeting to facilitate the link between the Reconciliation Strategy and the Operating Rules Study.	JP/WK
6.2	<i>East Coast Bulk Pipeline (BCM)</i> GC advised that BCM had requested AW to undertake a feasibility study to investigate the viability of supplying the Quenera area from the Nahoon Dam Water Treatment Plant, as well as the possibility of feeding the Dawn and Cambridge areas from this source. This would have the impact of increasing Nahoon Dam utilisation i.e. optimising the system yield. Bids have already been invited and have closed for the study, as well as the implementation of the findings. An award for the feasibility study component portion is imminent.	AW
	AW may also include in the initiative, the potential to extend supplies to feed into the Great Kei area. Also see ADM's Great Kei Study below.	
	BCM's intention is to use the Nahoon Dam / Nahoon Dam WTP to feed the eastern coastal areas of BCM and the Bridledrift Dam / Umzoniana WTP to feed the central and western coastal areas of BCM, as well as Mdantsane.	
	Planned/potential development on the West Bank and in Kidds Beach & Kaysers Beach, together with the above, implies a large potential supply out of the ABWSS to feed the western coastal region of BCM	
6.2.1	 Water Loss Reduction (BCM): The following is being undertaken: Umzoniana WTP : Addressed losses within the plant; ±20Ml/day. General : Focuses on areas of high night flows. Making good progress. 	



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		ACTION
6.3	Great Kei Regional Water Supply Study (ADM)	
	The Great Kei area requires an alternative sustainable water supply, due to low source	
	yields (coastal towns), high pumping heads (Khomgha) and poor groundwater quality	
	(rural settlements). A study has been done in terms of the viability to feeding this area	
	from the Wriggleswade Dam via the Kei Road WTP.	
	nom the winggleswade Dam via the Ner Noad W H .	
	ADM was advised that DWAF would need to be informed and kept abreast of the	
	Study, as they would need to evaluate the outcomes from a broader regional	
	perspective, before they could issue a water use license.	
	ADM stated that they would make a copy of the report, which is due in 3 weeks,	MS
	available to the Support Group.	
6.4	Small Towns Reconciliation Strategy Study (DWAF)	
	IT confirmed that a Reconciliation Strategy Study had also been initiated for all towns in	
	the Eastern Cape. A focus of the study is to ensure that all local resources are fully	
	developed, especially for remote villages where there is potential for groundwater	
	development, before large regional schemes are investigated.	
6.5	Link from Wriggleswade Dam into ABWSS (DWAF)	
0.0	Original planning is for the link to have a delivery capacity of 4 m ³ /s, but due to the	
	presence of an endangered fish species in the river systems, environmental	
	considerations currently limit the transfer capacity to 1 m ³ /s. There are two studies	
	underway by OA, which investigate pipe and canal options to circumvent the critical	
	river section, as well as the number of river crossing required due to higher flows.	
	MM confirmed that the Yellowwoods River Crossing Study was completed in December	
	2008 and that an RoD had been received. Currently in preliminary design. The PSP	
	had requested an extension of the contract period to December 2009 for the diversion	
	study (KwaNkwebu River), as they were of the opinion that the proposals would not	
	obtain the requisite environmental approvals in their current form. Recommendations	
	are currently awaited and there is a possibility that alternative transfer routes/options	
	may be required.	
	- 7 1	
	DC stated that, given that current planning was based on the 4m ³ /s transfer capacity,	
	alternatives that could potentially reduce the transfer requirement through the critical	
	river section, be investigated at a conceptual level of detail, before any final decisions	
	are taken in this regard.	
	Will stressed that the Upper Duffels is already similar stress the surger second that the	
	WK stressed that the Upper Buffalo is already significantly over committed, and	
	supplies are already being augmented from the Middle Buffalo, although not ideally in	
	many respects. A conceptual study is therefore necessary, as it may resolve several	
	supply constraints and facilitate shorter implementation periods of augmentation	
	options, particularly to the Upper Buffalo.	WK



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		ACTION
	The support team was instructed to undertake this study.	
7.	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION	
	It was agreed that there is a need to launch this project with a press release and to periodically send out updates.	
	The mechanism for dissemination of information and for establishing a database of recipients was discussed. It was recommended that the database used for the Strategy Study, be used as a basis for the development of the new database.	
	It was also agreed that the support team would investigate communication mechanisms currently being utilised by certain of the stakeholders, to see if it is appropriate to utilize these facilities e.g. municipal accounts. It was also agreed that the support team would obtain the Strategy Study Database and draft a communication strategy for consideration.	LF
	IT stated that a press release was required 2 weeks after the first Strategy Steering Committee meeting and a progress report after each subsequent Strategy Steering Committee meeting	
8.	STUDY MANAGEMENT	
	This item may be removed from the standard Agenda in future	
9.	BUDGET AND CASHFLOW	
	WK to report in this regard in future meetings.	
10.	ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS	
	WK confirmed that all administrative/contractual matters were in place ito the Strategy Support Team's appointment.	
11.	 GENERAL GC raised the issue of ownership of assets wholly located within BCM. It was agreed that this is not the forum for such matters. It could be discussed at the 	GC
	 Technical Operations Committee GC stated that there was a need to start investigating the next dam. It was stated that this would transpire as the Strategy unfolds 	ММ
	 GC stated that BCM had undertaken certain preliminary investigations of alternative augmentation options. GC to make these available to WK. 	GC/WK
	• GC stated the importance of keeping the Chamber of Business Informed of	GC/LF
	 developments in terms of the Strategy BCM to prepare a report on WC/WDM initiatives being implemented. 	GC
	• IT stated that it may be appropriate to develop a list of persons / organisations that should be kept abreast of developments, and that they be forwarded copies	IT/WK



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	FUTURE MEET	ΓING					ACTION
12.	Strategy Steeri						
	24 th June 2009		WK				
	Would typically						
	Strategy Group						
	23 rd June 2009						
	15 th July 2009						
	2 weeks after th						
	Would typically	be 6 weeks b	pefore and 2	weeks after	a Strategy Steering Comr	nittee	
	meeting						
	Operations Co-	ordination Cor	nmittee [.]				
	6 th August 2009						
	5 th November 2						
	Operating Rule	s Study:					
	23 rd June 2009						
	WK to draft a ca	alendar of all fu	uture meeting	9			WK
13.	MEETING CLO	SURF					
10.			ation and the	e meeting wa	s closed at 16h45.		
				e meeting wa			
14.	DISTRIBUTION	1					
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