

DEPARTMENT: WATER AFFAIRS AMATOLE SYSTEM RECONCILIATION STRATEGY STRATEGY STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES OF THE STRATEGY STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING No. 1 HELD ON 24 JUNE 2009 AT 8.30 AM AT THE EAST LONDON GOLF CLUB

-	-	INTRODUCTION Il to the first meet		Amatole Svs	tem Strateov S	Steering Committee, which
						nciliation Strategy.
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vN th	en afforde	d all present the c	pportuni	ty to introduce	themselves.	
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		AND APOLOGIES	6			
Attend						
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		OF AGENDA				
The dra	aft Agenda	circulated prior to	o the me	eting was acc	epted without o	changes.
THE A	MATOLE	SYSTEM RECOM		ON STRATE	GY (ASRS)	
		the development			· · ·	
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						econciliation Strategy Studie
comple	eted by DV	VA National Wat	er Resou	urces Plannin	g, which have	been done for all the majo
metrop	olitan area	as in South Africa	and are	now progress	ively being imp	plemented, as the Strategy for
	athole are			1 3 3 5 5	, <u> </u>	,
		~.				
The ob	iective of t	he Reconciliation	Stratogi	e is to oncur	a that the requi	isite actions are undertaken i
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		ACTION
	Strategy Steering Committees comprising of the key stakeholders will be established to oversee the implementation of the Strategies.	
	 Each Strategy Steering Committee will be responsible to: Oversee the implementation of their specific Strategies; Update and maintain their Strategies; and Communicate their Strategies. 	
	The Strategy Steering Committees will be accountable / answerable to possible water supply problems such as water shortages and water quality issues going forward. This raises the following key issues:	
	 The respective institutions within the region must give their commitment to the AWSS Reconciliation Strategy and be willing to implement recommendations put forward by the Strategy Steering Committee to prevent potential water shortages in their area; and The Strategy Steering Committee must be clearly defined and members must know and accept their roles and responsibilities. 	
	JvR explained that the primary purpose of this first Strategy Steering Committee meeting is that all representatives gain an understanding of the Strategy, what the issues are, the importance of the Strategy Steering Committee and what its responsibilities to the region are to ensure a sustainable water supply to all.	
	Questions/concerns raised: Given the above, does membership of this committee require approval/endorsement from a higher authority such as the Director General of DWA? It was agreed to discuss this matter at a later stage during the meeting.	
4.2	Findings and Recommendations of the ASRS (Annexure A) - Presentation by W. Ketteringham	
4.2.1	Findings	
	 System Yields: Work done during the Amatole Systems Analysis of 1990 was reviewed and updated as part of this Study; River environmental classification still need to be finalised; and The environmental water requirements will have a significant impact on the yield available from the system, if implemented. 	
	Discussion:	
	 FS: There is at present no commitment with regard to making environmental releases, only a commitment to the users. EWRs are therefore not part of the system yield at present. Implementation of the EWR will need to be planned for as part of the Strategy. 	
	 Water Requirements: High and low growth scenarios were developed in order to reflect the possible impacts 	
	of: > HIV/AIDS on population growth > Population migration	
	 Increasing level of service provision including formalisation of housing Economic prospects (local, regional & international) Supplying areas outside of the AWSS 	
	Figures do not include impact of WC/WDM, which is treated as an intervention.	
	Discussion: Nil.	
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mater Du	ance:	
• EWR	and irrigation requirements are presented as separate deductions against the	
	m yield;	
	growth scenario water requirement exceeds system yield by 2017 and earlier, if rrigation requirement is realised or EWR's are implemented;	
	uate system yield for the low growth water requirement scenario; and	
	risk of investing in infrastructure that may not be required.	
Discussio	าร:	
	discussions it was agreed that:	
	I / historical water use to 2008/2009 should be included in the graph;	WK WK
	gures in the graph are to be confirmed prior to presentation to others; nanner in which irrigation water requirements are presented on the graph are to	WIX
	nfirmed; and	WK
• There	e is a need to better understand irrigation water requirements. A dedicated	WK/JP/S
WOrks	shop in this regard is proposed.	WNJF/S
	<i>ation Options:</i> VDM – 17 options identified;	
	r re-use – 29 options identified;	
	nd water – 1 option identified;	
	ce water – 9 options identified;	
	lete Wriggleswade Dam link as soon as possible; and	
	m operating rules should be established to maximize yield, whilst quality issues be addressed at the source of pollution.	
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Discussio		
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4.2.2	Recommendations (Annexure A)	ACTION
	Presented in terms of:	
	Institutional Aspects	
	System OperationStrategy Implementation	
	 Strategy implementation System Yield 	
	Demand	
	Water quality	
	Priority Actions	
	Discussion: The completion of the Wriggleswade Dam link is key to water reconciliation in the	ММ
	 Need to establish a system for quick and consistent gathering of water use data; 	WK/SMa
	 The question of where treatment capacity is to be augmented is key; There is a need to meet with Working for Water to better assess potential for alien 	
	• There is a need to meet with working for water to belief assess potential for allen vegetation removal to increase system yield.	AT/WK
5 5.1	IMPLEMENTATION AND UPDATING OF THE ASRS	
5.1.1	Implementation of the ASRS Presentations to BCM, ADM, AW and Provincial government	
	 Key issues of the Strategy are WC/WDM and water re-use which are to be implemented by BCM, ADM and AW; 	
	 Processes are very politically driven in the region, therefore there is a need for buy-in from the municipalities to facilitate the implementation of the Strategy; and 	
	 Provincial Government is a major driver of housing and other infrastructure/development in the region. Therefore they and other stakeholders need 	
	to be made aware of the Strategy and we need to gain their support \ cooperation.	
	Discussions:	
	General: The Strategy needs to be publicised to these stakeholders and even wider. Need to	
	target institutions; and	
	 Awareness of water requirements and issues needs to be established at the highest level. 	
	Presentations and dates: General:	
	 Presentations to be +/- 20 minutes with 20-30 minutes for discussion time. 	
	• The objective of the presentations is an implicit understanding of the Strategy in general and the roles and responsibilities of each role-player (DWA, BCM, AW, ADM and the relevant committees) in particular, at the highest levels within the above	
	 organisations. Present responsibilities of various organisations and timelines (Annexure B). WK to undete the timelines for the presentations. 	WK
	 update the timelines for the presentations. WK to prepare first draft presentations for approval by stakeholders. 	wк
	 ASSSC members to make the presentation. ASATSG members to be present to answer questions. 	ASTSG
	 Simplify terminology/jargon as far as practically possible. Need to prepare presentation to roleplayers at provincial level and higher. 	
	BCM:	
	GC: Recommended presentation to the BCM Engineering Standing Committee. This will also then make it to the Mayoral Committee.	
	 Should aim to submit the presentation at the beginning of August 2009. 	WK
	 GC to confirm dates for next Engineering Standing Committee meeting and forward same to WK. 	GC
	Amatola Water:	
	 The next board meeting is on 25th September 2009. 	



		ACTION
	 Amatola District Municipality: Presentation also to be made to the ADM Engineering Standing Committee MS to forward date of next meeting to WK. 	MS
	 Department of Water Affairs: PvN: Need to make DWEA Minister & DWA Top Management aware. JvR: NWRP did inform DWA Top Management of the Western Cape Strategy. This has not yet been done for the Amatole Strategy. NWRP have circulated documents to DWA Top Management re WC/WDM and water re-use, as well as the current re-use initiatives in the country. The Minister is aware of the Strategies but a more detailed presentation is necessary. There is a need to circulate a letter from the DG to the various stakeholders (relevant water services providers) to reinforce the importance of the Strategies. This will however only be done after the respective presentations. 	PVN/JVR PVN/JVR
	Provincial Government: Need to establish who the right people are to target at the Provincial level. DWA	AL
	 regional office to assist in this regard. Consider using the Provincial Water Committee, Provincial Water Forum or the upcoming Water Summit. Must establish date of next Provincial Executive Meeting. Need someone from Province to be on the ASSSC, possibly from the Office of the Premier. This person will then advise as to the appropriate forums for the presentations. 	AL AL
	 General Public Awareness: Need to raise general public awareness re the Strategy, water wastage and responsible water use. The Water Summit at the end of this month could be a good forum to start this initiative. A flyer could be made available and put into packs for the Indaba at the end of the month. Flyer must be written in layman's terms, also both in Xhosa and English The Executive Summary needs to be written as a more public "friendly" document. 	WK
5.2	Updating of the Strategy	
	<u>Water requirements:</u>	
5.2.1	 Monitoring: Process has started. However, there is a need to reach consensus with key stakeholders on the various figures to be used, so that they can be consistently and systematically reproduced. 	WK/WSP's
	 Discussion: Monitoring will also include quality, but initial process will focus on quantity only. Monitoring will also include both potable water and return flows; Need to involve Operating Rules Study, to ensure that the same figures are being used. JvR: Timing of monitoring need to be aligned with operation runs. 	WK WK
5.2.2	 WC/WDM Strategy: None of the key water services providers have adopted WC/WDM Strategies or approved and funded Implementation Plans. This is a key constraint to the effective implementation of the Strategy. 	
5.2.3	 BCM Housing Delivery Plan BCM's Housing Implementation Plan of 2004 was ignored in developing the Strategy as the housing growth was deemed to be too unrealistic. It therefore needs to be reviewed and monitored closely in case of a spike in housing delivery. Housing delivery is a key driver of growing water requirements in the region. 	



	REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA	
		ACTION
	 Discussion: WK to obtain housing data from Devon Govender of BCM. Need to establish what the real drivers in water demand are: population, housing delivery and/or industrial development. JvR: Need to monitor important indicators that will affect strategic planning for water. 	WK
5.2.4	Other developments that will increase water requirements: Nothing was discussed under this item.	
	Supply-side interventions:	
.2.5	Yellowwoods/Kubusi Link	
	MM provided an update as to the status of the various studies being undertaken in this regard.	
	 Discussion: Following significant debate it was stated that: PvN: A programme to the completion of the project is required. JvR: In terms of the high demand scenario, the requirement for the completion of the link has already been exceeded. The link therefore needs to be completed as a matter of urgency. OA needs to give high priority to programming of this link. The ASSSC need to have a target date for the completion of the link to assist in planning the implementation of other reconciliation options. 	мм
.2.6	 Water re-use BCM does not have an adopted Re-use Strategy, nor an approved and funded Implementation Plan. This is a key constraint to the effective implementation of the Strategy. 	
	 Discussion: JvR: Re-use is a very important part of the Western Cape Reconciliation Strategy and the ATSG there have been asked to do further investigations in this regard. As re-use is also importance in this instance, a summary report on the potential for re-use is also required for the Amatole System. WK to use the WC report as a guideline; PvN: Re-use is a priority at a national level and various initiatives to promote re-use have been initiated; JvR: Re-use investigations are being done for the Western Cape and eThekwini, whilst a study is about to start for PE; GC: There are 3 golf estates being planned in BCM at present. Treated effluent will be used in these instances for irrigation and gardening; and Biogas production: DBSA has commissioned a feasibility study of this for the IDZ. 	wĸ
5.2.7	 Re-evaluation, pricing and prioritisation of options WK proposed that a process, similar to that undertaken for the Western Cape, be undertaken to re-evaluate and prioritise reconciliation options, especially the surface water options, in that: The surface water options were investigated more than 10 years ago and certain circumstances may have changed since then; It would be a process to facilitate buy-in by the respective stakeholders and give relevance to the Strategy to a broader audience; and It would assist OA in prioritising its studies. 	
	 Discussion: PvN: Stated that a detailed proposal in this regard needs to be circulated for discussion prior to the next meeting. 	WK
.2.8	 Alien vegetation The current Strategy questions the effectiveness of the removal of alien vegetation to increase system yield in this instance: 	
	 Discussion: JvR: The ASATSG needs to make contact with Working for Water to assess their opinion in this regard. 	AT/WK



6.	ADMINISTRATION AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT GROUP ACTIVITIES (ATSG)	ACTION
6.1	 <i>Current Activities</i> Compiling the Executive Summary of the Strategy; Reviewing/updating demands; and Developing a communication strategy and anything that comes out of this first meeting. 	
	 Discussion: WK to present a draft of the communication strategy for discussion at the ASATG meeting of 15th July 2009. 	WK
6.2	 ASSSC Requests Nothing discussed at the meeting 	
6.3	 Draft Terms of Reference (Annexure C2) Following discussion it was agreed that unless comments were forwarded to WK for consideration, the ToR for the ASATSG would be as per those contained in Annexure C 2 of the Agenda. 	ALL
6.4	Proposed membershipThe initial list of members proposed is contained in Annexure C1.	
	 Discussion: Following discussions it was agreed that: EC Department of Agriculture need to be part of the committee to provide updates on agricultural activities in region. DWA Directorate Institutional Establishment needs to be part of the committee. The minutes are to state that representation is fine with the above considerations, unless particular parties are opposed to representation. 	
7	EXISTING AMATOLE SYSTEM OPERATIONS CO-ORDINATION COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES (ASOCC)	
7.1	 Current Activities Includes all role players and is involved with day-to-day operational issues; The committee meets four times a year or as the need arises; Deals with all aspects of water resources management, including water releases and issues of outstanding water infrastructure; and Has had little influence to date in getting issues like the Yellowwoods/ Wriggleswade Dam link addressed. 	
7.2	 Draft Terms of Reference and proposed relationship to ASOCC (Annex. D) <i>ToR's:</i> The ToR's were drafted based on the Western Cape model, and may not be completely appropriate in this instance. 	
	 Discussion: Following discussions it was agreed that the ToR's are to be discussed at the next ASOCC meeting scheduled for 6th August 2009, after which they will be fed back to the next ASSSC. 	ASSOC
	 Relationship to ASSSC Following extensive discussion it was agreed that: The ASOCC is not a sub-committee of the ASSSC but is a separate forum functioning independently of the ASSSC; The ASOCC is the forum for discussing operational issues in detail; Only pertinent issues that will impact on planning and the Strategy are to be brought to the ASSSC; and The ASSSC will play an oversight role in the interim, until such time as the ASOCC is capacitated and key issues have been addressed. 	ASSOC



 7.3 Representation It was agreed that Da Gama Textiles should be part of this committee and not of any other; and Representation to be finalised at the next ASOCC meeting and details fed back to the ASSEC / ASATSG. 7.4 Update on work regarding Annual Operating Rules Study A presentation was provided by Stephen Mallory. SM to provide a copy of the presentation on the study to WK for circulation. Key issues: Draw Nahoon and Bridledrift dams down to 20% to 30% (30% more likely due to water quality & operational constraints), prior to making transfers; Use Wriggleswade Dam as the indicator for imposing water restrictions, as opposed to any other dam or a combination of dams; Draw Laing Dam down to 50% before making transfers; The Wriggleswade Dam level at which decisions need to be taken will be high, which could result in objections from certain parties. Should consider presenting information in terms of "months of available supply" and not dam levels; There is a low probability of needing to impose water restrictions for the forthcoming year. Discussion: GC: This approach is acceptable, but would require buy-in from BCM politicians prior to adoption, as this will impact on water tariffs and possible costs of releases; SR: Is use to be registered against the system or a dam? This needs to be clarified outside of this meeting; JVR: Before adopting the operating rules, there is first a need to determine acceptable levels of restrictions. Need to look at the Vaal System for examples; Rooikranz Dam (Upper Buffalo): It was not covered as part of this presentation, but will be used as an input in the model; MS: Has the demand from the Kei Road WTP been considered in this study?; MS: Has the demand from the Kei Road WTP been consider fuences and will be used as an input in the model; Need a comprehensive repo	
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(ASSSC)	
 8.1 Draft Terms of Reference (Annexure E2) JvR: ToR based on Western Cape Strategy Steering Committee See objectives of ASSSC 	
	LL
 8.2 Confirmation of membership (Annexure E1) Need to decide on any other groups that need to be involved Need membership from Eastern Cape Provincial Government All to read and send comments to WK for the ATSG to collate for approval at the next ASSSC meeting. 	LL
 8.3 General discussion and approval of ToR In principal all are happy with the general proposal, committees and proposed interaction between committees. The ASATSG works under the ASSSC The ASOCC essentially works on its own. 	



		ACTION
9.	GENERAL	
9.1	 Information regarding Rain Water Harvesting within ADM GC: There is no rainwater harvesting projects in the BCM area, only in Great Kei MS: ADM are doing a pilot project only, which is located outside of the study area 	
9.2	 Information regarding existing and future irrigation projects in the Amatole Supply System Binfield Dam: Fort Hare University is over irrigating; Keiskamma River: Establishing a water user association. Then DWA will consider a licence; and A further meeting is required to better understand irrigation in the area in general. 	
10.	NEXT MEETINGS (PROPOSED DATES FOR 2009)	
10.1	 Amatole System Strategy Steering Committee 10th November 2009 	
10.2	Administration and Technical Support Group 15 th July 2009 18 th August 2009 12 th October 2009 24 th November 2009 (to be confirmed)	
10.3	 Amatole Operations Co-ordination Committee 6th August 2009 5th November 2009 	
11	CLOSURE	
	PvN requested FS to present the consolidated actions based on the meeting. These are attached as Annexure A to the minutes.	
	PvN then thanked all for their attendance and closed the meeting.	
12	DISTRIBUTION	
	All members of the ASSSC & ASATSG.	