



**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**

						ACTION
1.	WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION					
	PvN welcomed all to the first meeting of the Amatole System Strategy Steering Committee, which constitutes the start of the implementation of the Amatole System Reconciliation Strategy.					
	PvN then afforded all present the opportunity to introduce themselves.					
2.	ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES					
2.1	Attendance:					
	Name	Organisation	Initials	Tel. No.	Fax No.	E-mail address
	P. Van Niekerk	DWA : IWRP	PvN	012-336 8762	012-336 8295	niekerk@dwaf.gov.za
	J. Van Rooyen	DWA: NWRP	JvR	012-336 8814	012-336 8295	javr@dwaf.gov.za
	A. Thobejana	DWA: NWRP	AT	012-336 7869	012-336 8295	thobejana@dwaf.gov.za
	F. Stoffberg	DWA: NWRP	FS	012-336 8319	012-336 8295	ica@dwaf.gov.za
	J. Pashkin	DWA: WRPS	JP	082 804 3143	012-336 8695	JGE@dwaf.gov.za
	Dr B. Mwaka	DWA: WRPS	BM	012-336 8188	012-336 6731	mwakab@dwaf.gov.za
	M. Mugumo	DWA: OA	MM	012-336 6838	012-336 7399	ize@dwaf.gov.za
	X. Keke	DWA: RO	XK			KekeZ@dwaf.gov.za
	A. Lucas	DWA: RO: SC	AL	043-604 5403	043-642 3647	lucasa@dwaf.gov.za
	K. Viljoen	WDA: NWRI	KV	042-243 6109	042-243 1801	viljoenk@dwaf.gov.za
	S. Mullineux	DWA	SM	048-581 3005	048-881 3545	mullins@dwaf.gov.za
	G. Cowley	BCM	GC	043-705 2084	043-722 3606	grahamc@buffalocity.gov.za
	C. Thompson	Amatola Water	CT	043-707 3700	043-707 3701	cthompson@amatolawater.co.za
	S. Rousseau	Amatola Water	SR	043-707 3700	043-707 3701	SRousseau@amatolawater.co.za
	M. Shezi	ADM	MS	043-701 5152	043-722 4081	mpumelelos@amatole-dm.co.za
	W. Ketteringham	UWP	WK	043-721 0186	043-721 0288	waynek@uwp.co.za
	F. Ballim	Water Resources	FB	033-342 5240	033-342 5240	faeza@waterresource.co.za
	S. Mallory	Water Resources	SM	083 415 7223	012-365 2121	Stephen@waterresources.co.za
2.2	Apologies:					
	Name	Organisation	Initials	Tel. No.	Fax No.	E-mail address
	I. Thompson	DWA	IT	012-336 8647	012-336 8295	thompsoni@dwaf.gov.za
	D. Coetzee	DWA:WRI	DC	041-586 4884	041-586 0379	coetzeed@dwaf.gov.za
	S. Mabuda	DWA:OA	SM	012-336 8477	012-336 7399	MabudaS@dwaf.gov.za
	P. Viljoen	DWA:WRPS	PV	012-336 7514	086 620 6472	viljoen@dwaf.gov.za
	T. Geldenhuys	DWA:EC RO	TG	048-881 3005	048-881 3545	gelden@dwaf.gov.za
	N. Jonker	ADM	NJ	043-701 4004	043-722 4081	nicoj@amatoleadm.co.za
	J.F. Joubert	DoA	JJ	043-683 5404	043-6831829	Kowie.joubert@agr.ecprov.gov.za
3.	ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA					
	The draft Agenda circulated prior to the meeting was accepted without changes.					
4.	THE AMATOLE SYSTEM RECONCILIATION STRATEGY (ASRS)					
4.1	Background to the development of the ASRS: J. Van Rooyen					
	JvR provided some background regarding the development of the Reconciliation Strategy Studies completed by DWA National Water Resources Planning, which have been done for all the major metropolitan areas in South Africa and are now progressively being implemented, as the Strategy for the Amathole area.					
	The objective of the Reconciliation Strategies is to ensure that the requisite actions are undertaken in time to ensure a sustainable water supply to the specific regions within the planning horizons to 2030.					



		ACTION
	<p>Strategy Steering Committees comprising of the key stakeholders will be established to oversee the implementation of the Strategies.</p> <p>Each Strategy Steering Committee will be responsible to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Oversee the implementation of their specific Strategies; ▪ Update and maintain their Strategies; and ▪ Communicate their Strategies. <p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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. <p>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.</p> <p><i>Questions/concerns raised:</i> <i>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.</i></p> <p>4.2 Findings and Recommendations of the ASRS (Annexure A) - Presentation by W. Ketteringham</p> <p>4.2.1 Findings</p> <p>System Yields:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. <p><i>Discussion:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>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.</i> <p>Water Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High and low growth scenarios were developed in order to reflect the possible impacts of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ 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. <p><i>Discussion:</i> <i>Nil.</i></p>	



		ACTION
4.2.2	<p>Recommendations (Annexure A) Presented in terms of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutional Aspects • System Operation • Strategy Implementation • System Yield • Demand • Water quality • Priority Actions <p><i>Discussion:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The completion of the Wriggleswade Dam link is key to water reconciliation in the region;</i> • <i>Need to establish a system for quick and consistent gathering of water use data;</i> • <i>The question of where treatment capacity is to be augmented is key;</i> • <i>There is a need to meet with Working for Water to better assess potential for alien vegetation removal to increase system yield.</i> 	<p>MM</p> <p>WK/SMa</p> <p>AT/WK</p>
<p>5</p> <p>5.1</p> <p>5.1.1</p>	<p>IMPLEMENTATION AND UPDATING OF THE ASRS</p> <p>Implementation of the ASRS</p> <p>Presentations to BCM, ADM, AW and Provincial government</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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. <p><i>Discussions:</i></p> <p><i>General:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>The Strategy needs to be publicised to these stakeholders and even wider. Need to target institutions; and</i> ▪ <i>Awareness of water requirements and issues needs to be established at the highest level.</i> <p><u><i>Presentations and dates:</i></u></p> <p><i>General:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Presentations to be +/- 20 minutes with 20-30 minutes for discussion time.</i> ▪ <i>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.</i> ▪ <i>Present responsibilities of various organisations and timelines (Annexure B). WK to update the timelines for the presentations.</i> ▪ <i>WK to prepare first draft presentations for approval by stakeholders.</i> ▪ <i>ASSSC members to make the presentation. ASATSG members to be present to answer questions.</i> ▪ <i>Simplify terminology/jargon as far as practically possible.</i> ▪ <i>Need to prepare presentation to roleplayers at provincial level and higher.</i> <p><i>BCM:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>GC: Recommended presentation to the BCM Engineering Standing Committee. This will also then make it to the Mayoral Committee.</i> ▪ <i>Should aim to submit the presentation at the beginning of August 2009.</i> ▪ <i>GC to confirm dates for next Engineering Standing Committee meeting and forward same to WK.</i> <p><i>Amatola Water:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>The next board meeting is on 25th September 2009.</i> 	<p>WK</p> <p>WK</p> <p>ASTSG</p> <p>WK</p> <p>GC</p>



		ACTION
	<p><i>Amatola District Municipality:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presentation also to be made to the ADM Engineering Standing Committee ▪ MS to forward date of next meeting to WK. 	MS
	<p><i>Department of Water Affairs:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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
	<p><i>Provincial Government:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Need to establish who the right people are to target at the Provincial level. DWA 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 AL
	<p><i>General Public Awareness:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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	<p>Monitoring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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. <p><i>Discussion:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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/WSP's WK WK
5.2.2	<p>WC/WDM Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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	<p>BCM Housing Delivery Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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. 	



		ACTION
	<p><i>Discussion:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>WK to obtain housing data from Devon Govender of BCM.</i> ▪ <i>Need to establish what the real drivers in water demand are: population, housing delivery and/or industrial development.</i> ▪ <i>JvR: Need to monitor important indicators that will affect strategic planning for water.</i> 	WK
5.2.4	<p>Other developments that will increase water requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Nothing was discussed under this item. 	
	<u>Supply-side interventions:</u>	
5.2.5	<p>Yellowwoods/Kubusi Link</p> <p>MM provided an update as to the status of the various studies being undertaken in this regard.</p> <p><i>Discussion:</i> <i>Following significant debate it was stated that:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>PvN: A programme to the completion of the project is required.</i> ▪ <i>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.</i> 	MM MM
5.2.6	<p>Water re-use</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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. <p><i>Discussion:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>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;</i> ▪ <i>PvN: Re-use is a priority at a national level and various initiatives to promote re-use have been initiated;</i> ▪ <i>JvR: Re-use investigations are being done for the Western Cape and eThekweni, whilst a study is about to start for PE;</i> ▪ <i>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</i> ▪ <i>Biogas production: DBSA has commissioned a feasibility study of this for the IDZ.</i> 	WK
5.2.7	<p>Re-evaluation, pricing and prioritisation of options</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ 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. <p><i>Discussion:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>PvN: Stated that a detailed proposal in this regard needs to be circulated for discussion prior to the next meeting.</i> 	WK
5.2.8	<p>Alien vegetation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The current Strategy questions the effectiveness of the removal of alien vegetation to increase system yield in this instance: <p><i>Discussion:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>JvR: The ASATSG needs to make contact with Working for Water to assess their opinion in this regard.</i> 	AT/WK



<p>7.3</p> <p>Representation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 ASSSC / ASATSG. 		<p>ACTION</p> <p>ASSOC</p>
<p>7.4</p> <p>Update on work regarding Annual Operating Rules Study</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A presentation was provided by Stephen Mallory. SM to provide a copy of the presentation on the study to WK for circulation. <p><i>Key issues:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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; The dam is outside of BCM, would BCM accept this methodology? There is a low probability of needing to impose water restrictions for the forthcoming year. <p><i>Discussion:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 part of a further/separate study; MS: Has the demand from the Kei Road WTP been considered in this study?; SMa: The level of assurance of supply must be informed by this committee and will be used as an input in the model; Need a comprehensive report \ recommendation on operating rules for the next meeting; but GC to provide SMa with the details of BCM’s measure/levels of restrictions e.g. punitive tariffs per dam level. WK: Is there a need to communicate the outcomes/aspects of the Operating Rules Study to BCM, Amatola Water, etc?. 		<p>SMa/JP</p> <p>JP/SMa</p> <p>JP/SMa</p> <p>JP/SMa</p> <p>GC</p>
<p>8</p> <p>ESTABLISHMENT OF THE AMATOLE SYSTEM STRATEGY STEERING COMMITTEE (ASSSC)</p> <p>8.1</p> <p>Draft Terms of Reference (Annexure E2)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> JvR: ToR based on Western Cape Strategy Steering Committee See objectives of ASSSC All to read and send comments to WK for the ATSG to collate for approval at the next ASSSC meeting. <p>8.2</p> <p>Confirmation of membership (Annexure E1)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. <p>8.3</p> <p>General discussion and approval of ToR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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. 		<p>ALL</p> <p>ALL</p>



		ACTION
9.	GENERAL	
9.1	Information regarding Rain Water Harvesting within ADM	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 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	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 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	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 10th November 2009	
10.2	Administration and Technical Support Group	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 15th July 2009▪ 18th August 2009▪ 12th October 2009▪ 24th November 2009 (to be confirmed)	
10.3	Amatole Operations Co-ordination Committee	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ 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.	