

UPDATING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AMATOLE WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM RECONCILIATION STRATEGY

AMATOLE STRATEGY STEERING COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. INTRODUCTION / PREAMBLE

The Department of Water Affairs (DWA), formerly known as Department of Water Affairs and Forestry, together with representatives from Buffalo City Municipality (BCM), the Amatola Water Board (AW), the Amathole District Municipality (ADM), the Kubusi Irrigation Board (KIB) and the Eastern Cape Provincial Department of Agriculture (EC DoA) developed a Strategy to ensure the ongoing reconciliation of supply and water requirement from the Amatole Water Supply System (AWSS) to 2030. One of the recommendations of the Strategy Study was that a Strategy Steering Committee be formed with a clearly defined mandate and scope of work.

The primary function of the Amatole System Strategy Steering Committee (ASSSC) is to ensure the implementation of the Strategy and to make recommendations on an annual basis, on long-term planning activities required to ensure ongoing reconciliation of water requirement from and available supply to the AWSS area.

A number of organizations currently own, operate and receive water from the AWSS. The main role-players to date being the DWA, BCM, AW, ADM, KIB and EC DoA. Although these organizations will continue to play a significant role in future decisions, other organizations need a forum to ensure that their requirements are clearly conveyed, that they can make contributions when needed and that they remain continuously informed about the development and decisions regarding the AWSS. Organizations represented on the ASSSC must ensure that recommendations made in the Strategy document are implemented and assume a collective responsibility for ensuring the ongoing reconciliation of supply and requirement.

2. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the ASSSC are:

- Ensure implementation of the recommendations of the Amatole Reconciliation Strategy;
- Update the Strategy to ensure that it remains relevant; and
- Ensure that the Strategy and its recommendations are appropriately communicated.

2.1 *Implementation of Strategy Recommendations*

- Monitor the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Amatole Reconciliation Strategy Study;
- Monitor the progress and compliance with set targets and objectives such as:
 - Target dates for initiating and completing studies;
 - Implementation and effectiveness of Water Conservation and Water Demand Management; and
 - Implementation of other interventions.
- Assess the implications of deviations; and
- Make recommendations on mitigation measures and adjustments to ensure the ongoing reconciliation of supply and requirements.

2.2 *Updating of the Strategy*

- Review / update and revise the Amatole Reconciliation Strategy as required;
- Monitor and update water requirements on an annual basis;
- Reassess the available resources and the existing system yield;
- Undertake an annual reconciliation of supply and requirements;
- Update the Scenario Planning Process to cater for changes in water requirements, yield and potential delays in the implementation of selected interventions;
- Finalise the process for the selection of Interventions for implementation; and
- Make recommendations to DWA and the relevant Water Services Authorities for further studies required to update the water requirement and system yield, as well as on the need to implement interventions.

2.3 Communication

- Communicate annually, and as and when required, on progress in the implementation of the recommendations of the Amatole Reconciliation Strategy Study to the following Authorities and Stakeholders:
 - DWA;
 - Buffalo City Municipality;
 - Amatola Water Board;
 - Amathole District Municipality;
 - Eastern Cape Provincial Government;
 - Organised Agriculture;
 - Environmental NGO's
- Communicate progress on the implementation of the recommendations of the Amatole Reconciliation Strategy Study to the general public;
- Liaise with Departments involved in producing National and Provincial Strategies and provide input into Provincial Strategies and provide input into Provincial Strategies;
- Brief relevant municipalities and Water User Associations on imminent decisions;
- Inform politicians of press releases relating to the reconciliation of supply and requirement;
- Liaise with the ASOCC as required; and
- Provide information for the DWA, WSA and other relevant institutions websites.

3. CHAIRMANSHIP

The Amatole System Strategy Steering Committee is a steering committee formed to ensure the ongoing reconciliation of water supply and requirement. Whilst the committee comprises of representatives from national government, provincial government, local government, the CMA's and WUA's, the meetings will be facilitated and chaired by DWA: Integrated Water Resource Planning.

4. ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT GROUP

An Administrative and Technical Support Group has been appointed to support the ASSSC. The support group will provide administrative, scientific and technical support. This support will be facilitated through DWA: National Water Resource Planning.

5. REPRESENTATION

The institution / agencies to be represented on the ASSSC are listed in the Table below:

Eastern Cape Provincial Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Agriculture • Department of Local Government and Housing {Human Settlement Planning} • Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning • Office of the Premier 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Branch • Planning Branch
Local Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buffalo City Municipality • Amathole District Municipality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portfolio councillor • Director Engineering Services • General Manager Water, Waste Water & Scientific Services • Director Engineering Services
Water Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amatola Water Board 	
CMA's	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WMA 12: Mzimvubu to Keiskamma 	
WUA's	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kubusi Irrigation Board 	
Department of Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integrated Water Resource Planning • National Water Resource Planning • Water Resource Planning Systems • Options Analysis • Water Resources Infrastructure Branch • Water Use Efficiency 	
Department of Water and Environmental Affairs (RO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutional Support • Regulatory Support • Water Sector Support • Information Management 	

6. ASSSC MEETINGS

It is envisaged that two meetings will be held, at six monthly intervals, each year:

- Meeting 1 (March)
 - To consider / review progress with implementation;
 - To deal with communications

- Meeting 2 (September)
 - To consider / review progress with implementation
 - To update the Amatole Water Supply System Reconciliation Strategy
 - To deal with communications