

water affairs

Department: Water Affairs **REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

Feasibility Study for Foxwood Dam

Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting, No. 2

At 14:00 on 18 April 2013, Adelaide Golf Club

MINUTES

1. **REGISTRATION FROM 13:30 TO 14:00**

2. WELCOME

Mrs Sanet van Jaarsveld, Chairperson welcomed attendees to the meeting and thanked the Adelaide Golf Club for their hospitality.

(Chair)

3. ATTENDANCE AND INTRODUCTIONS

Mrs Sanet van Jaarsveld noted the organisations that were invited to the PSC. The attendance is noted at the end of these minutes. The attendance register is attached to these minutes.

The following organisations were invited to the PSC:

- Head Office and Regional Office of Department of Water Affairs
- National Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries
- Department of Rural Development and Land Reform
- Eastern Cape Department of Rural Development and Agrarian Reform
- Eastern Cape Office of the Premier [DID NOT ATTEND]
- Provincial Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism [DID NOT ATTEND]
- Provincial Department of Local Government and Traditional Affairs [DID NOT ATTEND]
- Representatives of the Amathole District Municipality, Nxuba Local Municipality and Amatola Water

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

New subjects to be included in Item 10: Any Other Business

The Agenda was approved without changes or additions

5. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PSC MEETING (12 DECEMBER 2012)

5.1 Approval/Corrections

In section 5.2 (Background to the Project)the word 'hope' was changed to 'fact'.

5.2 Matters arising (not covered in items 6 to 9 on the Agenda)

 Item 5.6 Newsletter – A newsletter has been produced and will be circulated

Chairperson noted that the first project newsletter has been published and circulated to registered stakeholders. It was noted that additional copies have been left with the local municipality. The first and future newsletters will be published on the DWA website.

6. APPROVAL OF PROJECT GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

Chairperson provided an overview of the Project Governance Structure which was discussed and agreed at the previous PSC. The inclusion of specific working groups was noted. Currently it is envisaged to establish an Agricultural working group.

Ms Makhanya, noted that at the previous PSC it was indicated that, for consistency, government departments forming part of the project governance structure should be formally invited to nominate a person as a point of contact for matters related to Foxwood Dam.

Arup undertook to implement this process.

7. FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE PRELIMINARY STUDY

7.1 Presentation

Mr Bob Pullen, provided an overview of the full Feasibility Study modules. Specific feedback was provided on the initial outcomes of the Preliminary Study which was programmed to be completed by the end of April 2013.

The presentation slides are attached to the minutes.

The slides covered the following aspects;

- Stakeholder Engagement
- Environmental Screening
- Geotechnical Desk-study
- Hydrology and Ecological Water Requirements

Arup

(PSP)

- Potential Irrigation Development
- Alternative Supplies

7.2 Discussion and comments

a.) Andrew Lucas noted that the Fish River has a geology that results in high salinity and queried whether increased irrigation within the Koonap River catchment would result in increased salinity leaching in the Koonap River. It was requested that this be reported on in the Water Quality module.

Arup

- b.) Stephen Nash noted that it would be appreciated by Amathole District Municipality (ADM) if consideration could be given to making use of the existing Fish River pumping scheme to supply water from Adelaide to Bedford in the event that assurance of domestic water supply to Adelaide is increased due to development of the Koonap Canal system or the development of Foxwood Dam.
- c.) Stephen Nash, ADM, provided an overview of work undertaken and being undertaken by ADM regarding domestic water supply to Adelaide.
 - Refurbishment of the Koonap Canal is being undertaken. Upgrade of the canal is currently outside ADM budget allowance by ADM.
 - ADM are using one borehole which yields approximately 7l/s and which is pumped approximately 24hr/day. Previous borehole study indicated that a wide spread of boreholes would be required which would be difficult to connect to one system cost-effectively. In addition, water quality was poor.
 - Un-accounted for water is reasonably high, however, water loss is not considered exceptionally high. Water conservation and demand management projects are being implemented. The first phase comprised water meters being retrofitted to domestic consumers and has been complete. Phase 2 comprises analysis of flows in the system and will commence shortly.
- d.) Stephen Nash noted that a pumping scheme has recently been approved to pump from the Koonap River directly into the Koonap canal towards the downstream end of the canal. This is to increase flows to the Adelaide storage dam while the canal is being refurbished and to allow a future maintenance regime for the canal to be implemented more effectively.
- e.) Stephen Nash noted that there is an existing emergency connection from the Koonap River at the railway bridge where the Fish River scheme is routed across the Koonap River and it is intended to formalise this connection.
- f.) Mr Barry Levinrad (Rural Development and Land Reform) queried how long it may be expected to fill the dam. It was generally noted that a 1MAR dam may be expected to fill in about 3 years due to the need to maintain downstream spills.
- g.) Mr Barry Levinrad noted that a deeds search should be carried out as part of the Land Matters module and in particular identify existing

farms under Land Reform processes.

h.) Brian Noncembu (Regional Manager, Environmental Affairs) queried whether project alternatives were being considered. It was noted that this project specifically address the Feasibility Study following historical studies of other possible dam locations on the Koonap. It was also noted that project alternatives would be considered as part of the EIA study to be carried out.

8. PROJECT PROGRAMME

A review of the project programme was provided.

The Preliminary Stage is being completed and will be delivered at the end of April 2013; significant progress has been made on the Water Resources module.

9. PROJECT RISKS

It was noted that no project risks have been identified.

Menard Mugumo noted that departments should communicate project risks to the project team where these are identified.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

11. DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next PSC will be held on Thursday 15 August 2013 in East London.

12. CLOSURE

Chairperson thanked attendees for travelling to Adelaide for the PSC meeting and for contributing to the work on the project. (Chair)

(Chair)

13. ATTENDANCE

PSP Project Team

James Hampton (PSP Project Director) James Bristow (PSP Project Manager) Bob Pullen (PSP Study Leader)

DWA Project Team

Mrs Sanet van Jaarsveld (National DWA, Project Engineer: Options Analysis (North)) Mr Menard Mugumo (National DWA, Chief Engineer: Options Analysis (South)) Mr Peter van Niekerk (National DWA, IWRP) Mr Archington Thobejane (National DWA, NWRI: Director Hydrological Engineering)

DWA Eastern Cape

Mrs Portia Makhanya (DWA:EC, Chief Director) Mr Theo Geldenhuys (DWA Regional Office: Regulation & Use) Mr Stephen Mullineux (DWA Regional Office: Engineer: Planning) Mr Cobus Ferreira (DWA Regional Office: Hydrology) Mr Samuel Maduna (DWA Regional Office: Hydrology) Ms Asanda Gidana (DWA:EC) PL Lubelwana (DWA:EC)

Eastern Cape Department of Rural Development and Agrarian Reform

Mr Kowie Joubert (Provincial Department: Rural Development & Agrarian Reform)

National Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries

Mrs Puleng Mofokeng (Deputy Director DWUID) Mr Ernest Malatsi (Assistant Director DWUID)

Department of Rural Development and Land Reform

Mr Barry Levinrad (Policy Advisor)

Department of Environmental Affairs - Amathole Region

Mr Briant Noncembu (Dep. Environmental Affairs, Amathole Region)

Amathole District Municipality Mr Stephen Nash

Amatola Water Mr Craig Thompson (Amatola Water)

Nxuba Local Municipality

Councillor Lombard (Nxuba Local Municipality: Councillor)































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