

### **Feasibility Study for Foxwood Dam**

### **Project Steering Committee (PSC) Meeting, No. 3**

At 9:00 on 03 October 2013, Casabella Guest House, East London

### **MINUTES**

- 1. REGISTRATION FROM 08:30 TO 09:00
- 2. WELCOME

Mrs Sanet van Jaarsveld, Chairperson welcomed attendees to the meeting

#### 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
- Provincial Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism
- Provincial Department of Local Government and Traditional Affairs [DID NOT ATTEND]
- Representatives of the Amathole District Municipality, Nxuba Local Municipality and Amatola Water

The Office of the Premier (OTP) confirmed that the representation of the Provincial Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism and the Provincial Department of Local Government and Traditional Affairs will act as representation of the OTP

#### 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 (18 APRIL 2013)

#### 5.1 Approval

Minor corrections were made to the names of the attending National and Provincial departments of government.

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

Item 6 – Governance Structure – nominated persons within stakeholder departments for communication regarding Foxwood Dam.

Mrs van Jaarsveld confirmed that the following people have been nominated by their respective departments to act as contact persons for the Project Steering Committee.

	Nominated PSC
Government Department	Contact Person
	Mrs Makanya P.
	Ms Morapeli S
	Mr Theo Geldenhuys
	Mr Ferreira C
	Mr Lucas A.
	Mr Maduna S
DWA - EC	Mr Mullineux S
DWA-1C	Mr Mbambisa G
	Ms Gidana A
	Mr Vonco M.
	M Gasa-Lubelwana P.
	Ms Kama B
	Mr Kunene B
	Ms Mapuma N
Department of Agriculture, Forestry and	
Fisheries	Ms Jean M. Gabriel
National Department of Rural Development	
and Land Reform	Ms N Gobozi
EC Department of Economic Development,	
Environmental Affairs and Tourism	Mr Zola Hewu
Provincial Department of Rural Development	
and Agrarian Reform	Mr Kowie Joubert
Department of Local Government and	
Traditional Affairs	Mr Tshitsho Majavu

### 6. MOVING FORWARD FROM THE PRELIMINARY STUDY

#### 6.1 Presentation

### Hydrology and Ecological Water Requirements

Mr Bob Pullen, Study Leader, gave an overview of the Module dealing with determination of Ecological Water Requirements (EWR). The EWR are determined in terms of the Water Act as the flow regime that must be maintained in the river, ie the Environmental Reserve, to sustain the riverine ecology. As a consequence the EWR significantly affect the quantity of water that can be made available for domestic and other uses. Following a specialist workshop by the EWR team the preliminary findings are:

- the Koonap River has a Present Ecological State (PES) of <u>category C</u>
- the Koonap River is of <u>MODERATE</u> Ecological Importance and Sensitivity (EIS)
- Recommended Ecological Category (REC) is to maintain the <u>PES of category C</u>

Full details will be reported in the Water Resources module.

#### Potential Irrigation Development& Agricultural Working Group

Mr John Allwood, Agriculture & Irrigation specialist, summarised the progress that has been made with a review of the irrigation potential downstream of the Foxwood Dam:

- It is estimated that there is some 15 000 ha of irrigable land downstream of the Foxwood Dam site. Consequently the availability of land is not a limiting factor for development of irrigated agriculture in the Koonap valley.
- Land currently being irrigated tends to be in relatively small patches.
- Current practices include mainly irrigation of pastures and high value crops like citrus, avocado and pecan.
- It was confirmed that little land is now available on the Municipal Commonage for food plots or other irrigation models as had been suggested in previous reports.
- Cropping patterns and irrigation systems have changed in recent years with less flood irrigation being practiced and the proportion of permanent crops increasing.

Mr John Allwood, Agriculture & Irrigation specialist, summarised the outcomes of the Agricultural Technical Working Group (ATWG), representing agricultural stakeholders in the area, which had met in Adelaide as follows:

- There was a stated willingness of commercial and aspirant farmers to work together for the development of commercial farming models for new farmers.
- All agreed that aspirant farmers should be assisted to become commercially successful farmers.

Advice is required from the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform, the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, the Department of Rural Development and Agrarian Reform, and the Eastern Cape Coordinating Committee on Agricultural Water (CCAW) to establish the way forward.

Mr Barry Levinrad (Policy Advisor, Department of Rural Development and Land Reform) noted:

- That the positive outcome and collaborative spirit in the ATWG was to be welcomed.
- That Chapter 6 of the National Development Plan on An Integrated and Inclusive Rural Economy proposes the establishment of District Lands Committees within district municipalities comprising all private and public agriculture stakeholders from district, provincial and national level.
- That the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform and Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries are committed to an existing policy and programme to promote and support smallholder farming development.
- That the Land Reform and Agriculture policy should be presented to the ATWG to determine which policies may be most applicable to the local Adelaide farming community and how best they can be implemented.

Mr Barry Levinrad undertook to provide the PSP with all relevant policies of the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform.

Theo Geldenhuys (Regional Office, DWA) noted that as the Foxwood Dam project had been motivated by DWA, it should be assumed that the capital cost of developing the dam would be incurred by National Treasury.

Mr Kowie Joubert (Engineer, Department of Rural Development and Agrarian Reform & Chairperson of the Coordinating Committee on Agricultural Water, Eastern Cape, CCAW) noted:

- If it is assumed that the capital cost of the dam will be funded by national Government, it should be expected that irrigation development and agricultural Development benefiting from the dam should be carried out in accordance with Land Reform policy and objectives.
- If the Land Reform policy and objectives are clearly defined, the provincial Department of Agrarian Reform can propose options and strategies for developing agriculture in line with these.
- If the department of Land Reform could confirm what financial net farm income is considered optimal, the provincial Department of Agrarian Reform could determine the minimum farm sizes required.

#### Alternative Supplies to Adelaide Town

Mr Bob Pullen (PSP Study Leader) summarised the key finding of the review of Alternative Supplies carried out as part of the Preliminary Study:

- An initial review of the hydrology has indicated that the current and likely future domestic demand of Adelaide can be supplied by the existing offtake weir canal and storage dam subject to repairs being made regular maintenance being done.
- The current and future domestic demand of Adelaide should be able to be supplied without the need to build Foxwood Dam.

Mr Stephen Nash (Amathole District Municipality, ADM) noted that:

- ADM is implementing a maintenance programme on the canal which has recently delivered flows of 5Ml/day. It was operating at 2.9Ml/day on Monday 30 September 2013. This decrease is believed to be due to the low level in the Koonap River.
- Contractors are currently carrying out work in Bedford and Adelaide to repair leaks in the water reticulation network.
- ADM is keen to support investment in major water schemes (such as Foxwood Dam) within its Municipality as there is very little availability of funds to carryout smaller scale maintenance required to optimise its existing assets

Dam Technical Feedback, Geotechnical data & Aerial Imagery

Mr James Hampton (Project Director & Dam Engineer) provided a brief update on technical progress with the dam design. Geotechnical investigations on the site have been completed and a report is being prepared.

The procurement of Aerial Surveys and Mapping has taken longer than originally programmed and is expected to be completed by late October 2013. Dam design activities will then commence.

#### 6.2 Discussion and comments

See above.

### 7. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Mr Sanet van Jaarsveld (DWA Project Manager) reported that the DWA process for procuring and appointing an EIA consultant is in progress.

It was noted in the meeting that:

- Consideration of Alternatives is an important aspect of the EIA which must not be overlooked.
- The social aspect of the EIA is particularly relevant to the Foxwood Dam project and the Land Reform policy must be given attention.

### 8. PROJECT PROGRAMME

Mr James Bristow (Arup Project Manager) provided a brief overview of the work programme as follows:

- the Preliminary Study has been completed
- the Water Resources module is reaching its conclusion
- Geotechnical site investigations have been completed
- Aerial Imagery of the dam site has been completed and mapping is commencing.

It is anticipated that once the mapping is completed, design of the dam structure will take place between November 2013 and January 2014. This is delayed compared to the original project programme, but will not impact on the overall project completion date.

#### 9. PROJECT RISKS

Perceived risks to the project were discussed and mitigation and actions agreed as recorded in the table below:

	Risk	Mitigation	Action
1	Environmental Impact Assessment – delay of authorisation for project	Appointment of Environmental Assessment Practitioner	DWA Head office
2	No development of commercially viable agricultural model	Implementation of Land Reform and Agricultural policy.	PSC & CCAW, Department of Land Reform & Department of Agriculture
3	Project Funding – risk of lack of affordability of Capital Expenditure for project	Awareness of National Treasury policy	DWA Head office
4	Project Funding – risk of lack of affordability of Operational Expenditure for project	Development of financial viability model based on proposed institutional and financing arrangements	PSP
5	Road diversion Timing and Schedule Implication	Consultation with Eastern Cape Provincial Department of Roads and Public Works	PSP
6	Ownership and administration of water resource	Project Module: Institutional Arrangements	Amathole District Municipality & PSP

#### 10. Any Other Business

It was agreed that because direct input to the project is required from a number of key stakeholder departments (notably Department of Rural Development and Land Reform, Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries and Department of Rural Development and Agrarian Reform) Agenda items should be included in future PSC meetings for 'report back' from those departments and others, such as Amathole DM and Amatola waterboard.

#### 11. DATE FOR NEXT MEETING

Thursday 13 March 2014

### 12. CLOSURE

Mrs Sanet van Jaarsveld thanked everyone present for attending and contributing to the meeting.

#### 13. ATTENDANCE

**PSP Project Team** 

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

John Allwood (PSP Agriculture Specialist)

**DWA Project Team** 

Mrs Sanet van Jaarsveld (DWA, Project Engineer: Options Analysis (North))
Mr Menard Mugumo (DWA, Chief Engineer: Options Analysis (South))

**DWA Eastern Cape** 

Mr Theo Geldenhuys (DWA Regional Office: Regulation & Use)
Mr Stephen Mullineux (DWA Regional Office: Engineer: Planning)
Mr Bhekokwakhe Kunene (EC - Institutional Establishment Directorate)
Ms Nosibuyiselo Mapuma (EC - Institutional Establishment Directorate)

Eastern Cape Department of Rural Development and Agrarian Reform

Mr Kowie Joubert (Provincial Department: Rural Development &

Agrarian Reform)

National Department of Agriculture, Forestry & Fisheries

Ms Puleng Mofokeng Deputy Director (Water Use & Irrigation

Development)

Mr Ernest Malatsi Assistant Director (Water Use & Irrigation

Development)

**Department of Rural Development and Land Reform** 

Mr Barry Levinrad (Chief Land Reform Policy Advisor)

Viwe Mbiyo (Project Coordinator) Xoliswa Mzilikazi (Project Coordinator)

N. Yokwana

Department of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism

Hlomela Ntsini (Assistant Manager: Environmental Quality Management)

**Amathole District Municipality** 

Mr Stephen Nash

**Amatola Water** 

[DID NOT ATTEND]

**Nxuba Local Municipality** 

Mrs Leonora Bruintjies (Speaker)

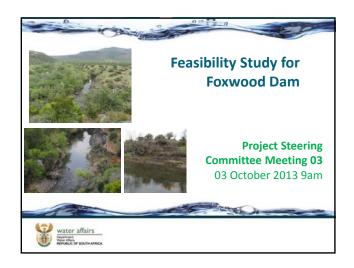
Mr Siphiwo Caga (Municipal Manager)

Councillor Ernie Lombard (Nxuba Local Municipality: Councillor)

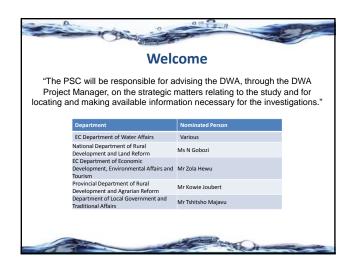
Councillor Quondile Maloni

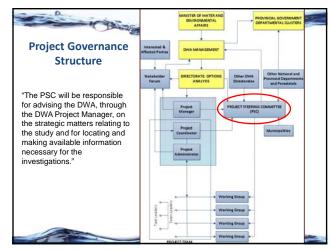
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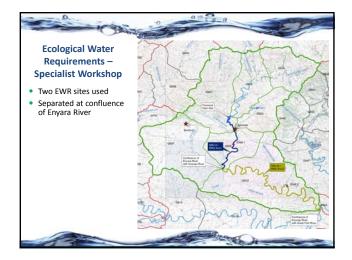


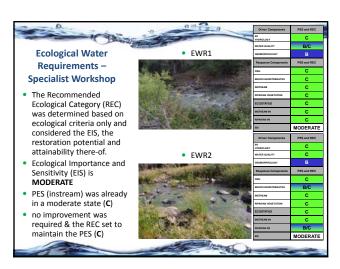


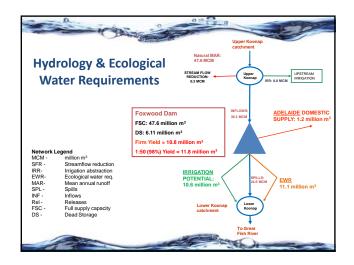




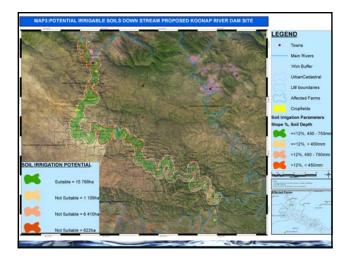




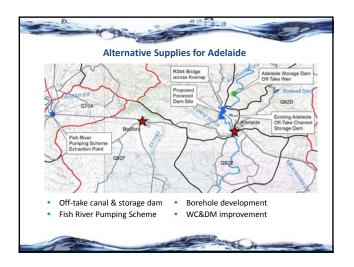




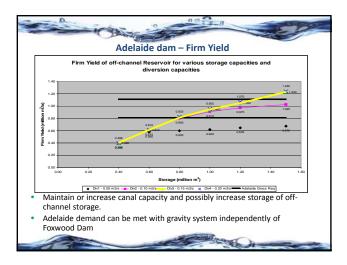


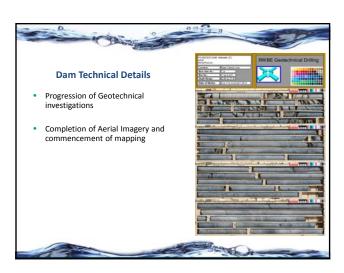


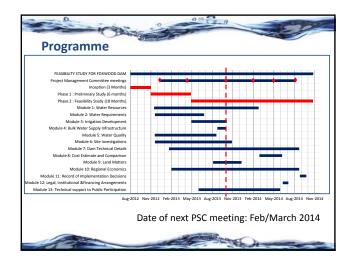


















### **National DWA**



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Mr Mpulampula	South African Local Government Association	zmpulampula@salga.org.za		?	

### **Rural Development and Land Reform**



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### **Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries**



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### **Local Government and Traditional Affairs**



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## Dept. of Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism



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Tr Craig Thompson Director: Planning and Development cthompson@amatolawater.co.za 082 550 6865  Tr Sieg Rousseau srousseau@amatolawater.co.za *	Name	Job Title	E-mail Address	Mobile Phone	Signature	Corrections
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### **Nxuba Local Municipality**



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### **PSP**



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Mr James Bristow	PSP Project Manager			*					
Mr Bob Pullen	PSP Study Leader			* Phillen.					
Mr John Allwood	PSP Agriculture & Irrigation Specialist			* Ka.					