

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (12/12/20/978) FOR THE GROOT LETABA RIVER
WATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (GLeWaP) INFRASTRUCTURE COMPONENTS

FOR THE

DEPARTMENT OF WATER AFFAIRS AND FORESTRY

Issues and Response Report

Version 3

Accompanying the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report

This report presents all comments received by Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) during the Announcement, Scoping and the beginning of the Impact Assessment Phases of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry's Groot Letaba River Water Development Project (GLeWaP) up to September 2008. Version one of the Issues and Response Report was presented as an Appendix to the Draft Scoping Report and its Summary Reports. Version 2 of the Issues and Response Report presented issues and comments received during the Scoping Phase. Version two was appended to the Final Scoping Report. Version 3 represents further issues and especially updated responses linked to the content of the Draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report and the Specialist Studies that were conducted during the Impact Assessment Phase.

Issues received in languages other than English (mainly Sepedi, XiTsonga and Afrikaans) were translated and are presented in this report in English.

APPRECIATION FOR PARTICIPATION BY INTERESTED AND AFFECTED PARTIES (I&APS)

Many I&APs have participated actively during the EIA process to date by attending meetings, and by taking the time to prepare written submissions. I&APs contributed considerable local knowledge, and contributed information on previous studies done in the area. Many also hosted members of the EIA team in their homes or offices, and showed them around the area. The EIA team wishes to express sincere appreciation for these efforts by I&APs.

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ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
1. ISSUES RELATED TO THE OVERALL NEED FOR AND DESIRABILITY OF THE PROJECT			
a. That stakeholders should stay positive, since all will benefit by the proposed dam.	Johannes Hendrik (Boela) Bruwer, Landowner Eureka LT 564 portion 14.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Noted.
b. That stakeholders strongly support the building of the proposed dam. It is believed that a comprehensive study, covering all aspects was already conducted previously.	Member of the Letaba Water User Association.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Noted.
c. That stakeholders will benefit by the project and that the implementation of the project should progress faster. The work plan should be changed to fast track the implementation of the project.	Samson Ngobeni, Hoshane Noel Nwamitwa, Daniel Mathye, Oris Mgobeni, Macson Hlahleni, residents of Nwamitwa village. Duke Modjadji, Department of Finance and Economic Development, Polokwane. Ms Olivia Phenyane, Embroidery Shop, Karoos Farm. Councillor RR Selomo, Greater Tzaneen Municipality.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007. Attendance at meeting at Mopani District Municipality on 30 July 2007. Site visit by the Social Impact Assessment Team. Attendance at the public meeting on 13 October 2007, Nwamitwa.	The project team is sympathetic to the requests to fast track the implementation of the proposed project, however the project may not proceed without the necessary environmental authorisation, financial arrangements and a formal decision by the DWAF. Water might be stored in the dam before the final completion of the construction of the dam – response by Bob Pullen, BKS.
d. That while the Department of Agriculture is concerned about the loss of land due to the proposed project, the department is positively supporting the project in anticipation for the sustainable development of agriculture in the area.	Foletji Mahlakoane, National Department of Agriculture, LUSM, Polokwane.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Noted.
e. "That water makes everything happen".	Raison Khosa, resident Nwamitwa village.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007.	Noted.
f. That the construction of the GLeWaP is supported, since bulk water supply is needed to accommodate the villages in the area.	Ms Masedi Clarenace Manyama, Greater Letaba Municipality, Ward 12 councillor.	Written submission (DSR comment sheet).	Noted.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
g. That the dam is overdue and the process must be completed in the shortest possible time.	BC (Burgert) van Rooyen, Group 91 Export.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Groot Letaba Water User Association offices, 31 July 2007 and Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007.	Noted. See response to 1(c).
h. That it is important to build the proposed dam for economic and social development, to reduce poverty and to benefit tourism in the area.	MR (Marc-Anthony Ricardo) Williams, DWAF. Ms Maria Nkhensani Mhlongo, Xiholo village.	Written submission (BID comment sheet). Written submission (DSR comment sheet).	Noted.
i. That the project will help people to get clean water and the people around the dam will benefit.	AE (Alingan Ephraim) Hlungwani, National African Farmers Union. Mr and Mrs Ngobeni, Nkambako Old Stands Village.	Written submission (BID comment sheet). Site visit by the Social Impact Assessment Team.	Noted.
j. That the project seems viable in the light of the present water situation of drought and scarcity of water in South Africa.	LL (Lekgola) Ramalepe, BaKgaga BaMaupa Communal Property Association.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Noted.

2. ISSUES RELATED TO WATER

2.1 Issues related to water rights and water allocation

a. That clarity is required in terms of water allocation to farmers: how will emerging black farmers get water rights because there was no water provision for them? Will water rights or licences be accompanied by a farm acquired in future? Land without water does not help emerging farmers.	Lady Chief Nwamitwa and Member of Parliament. Mr Hlamalani Khosa, Nwamitwa village and Mr Daniel Mathye, member of the Nwamitwa Community Policing Forum.	Attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007. Attendance at the public meeting on 13 October 2007, Nwamitwa.	A licence is not needed to continue with an existing lawful use authorised by previous legislation until the responsible authority requires that a person claiming to have such an entitlement applies for a licence. If a person could not use the water he is entitled to during the qualifying period the National Water Act provides that such a use could under certain circumstances be declared an existing lawful use. The Department's Water Allocation Reform programme pays particular attention to equitable distribution of water and emerging black farmers who did not receive their water for farming are advised to apply for their allocations to be declared as existing lawful use.
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			<p>Allowance was made in the hydrological analyses to include this as a usage. Irrigable land will have to be identified on which this water may be used.</p> <p>Implementation of the project with a new major storage dam will make it possible to better manage the water available for irrigation. While the GLeWaP Bridging Studies deals with water availability for the different uses in each reach of river, licencing and monitoring of abstractions (such as for irrigation) is a responsibility and function that must follow in the operation of the project. Reviewing of water use authorisations is a major undertaking that has commenced under the direction of the DWAF Regional Office, Polokwane.</p> <p>The licencing processes include validation and verification of present lawful uses, implementation of the Reserve, implementation of planning for the GLeWaP and attention to the relevant policies consistent with the National Water Act, Act 36 of 1998.</p> <p>A number of factors specifically relevant to the GLeWaP such as the accommodation of emerging, resource-poor farmers and the replacement of productive citrus orchards (and other irrigated crops) affected by the proposed new dam, have important policy implications. Policy proposals are being formulated for approval to enable the GLeWaP to be implemented as planned.</p>
b. That although farmers downstream of the Letaba River had water rights, they could never access the water due to poor assurance of supply.	Gilbert Mculu, Rainbow Emerging Commercial Farmers Union, Tzaneen.	Attended meeting at the offices of the Groot Letaba Water User Association on 31 July 2007.	See response to 2.1 (a)
c. That some people are allocated more water than what they can optimally use. This may result into water wastage and it was requested that the matter be investigated to ensure fair allocation of water.	Mr Timbali, resident Nwamitwa village.	Attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007.	See Response to 2.1 (a). Licencing procedures include the identification of unutilized water rights from the previous riparian right system and the promotion of efficient and optimal water use. Licencing of water use for irrigation is a mechanism for the reallocation of water resources to achieve policy and development objectives in terms of the National Water Act.

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d. That equal distribution and allocation of water be considered when the proposed project is implemented.	Anna Mandlakazi, resident Nwamitwa village and Nghuyuza Masilana, DWAF, Giyani and Magapu Phineas Lekoana, Department of Local Government and Housing, Limpopo, Lebowakgomo.	Written submissions (BID comment sheet) and Anna Mandlakazi attended a meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007.	See responses 2.1 (a) and 2.1(c)
e. That currently water is drawn from the Letaba River and from the Letaba South irrigation system canal via a servitude private pipeline – how will water rights be dealt with in terms of the proposed new development?	Johan and Horst Gubitz, Kallie Erasmus, Corrie Venter and Willie Mulder, landowners.	<p>Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Groot Letaba Water User Association offices, 31 July 2007 and meeting at Letaba Junction on 1 August 2007.</p> <p>Telephonic conversation in response to the DSR.</p>	See Responses to 2.1 (a) and 2.1 (c). Existing water distribution infrastructure (ie canals and pipelines) will as far as possible be retained for operations that are licenced in future. This applies to communal and private facilities. In many cases changes will be necessary to ensure continued supply of irrigation water to existing orchards and to orchards that may replace those lost in the dam basin. Each case will be attended to on its own merits and the cost implications must be included in the negotiation of compensation for the loss of rights associated with land to be acquired for the project. It is recognized that irrigation systems rely to a large extent on private farm dams. This system will be required in future and arrangements will be necessary to provide access to water from the existing canal systems, from the dam basin or from the outlets of the dam to supply the farm dams. Practical considerations affecting operation of the system such as ownership, responsibility for control and maintenance, and cost must be examined in detail.

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f. That servitude private pipelines might be under water if the proposed dam is constructed – how will landowners be affected in terms of their water rights? The timing of when such pipelines will be removed is critical to ensure no interruption in our farming activities – may we ask for detailed planning?	Johan and Horst Gubitz, landowners.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Groot Letaba Water User Association offices, 31 July 2007 and meeting at Letaba Junction on 1 August 2007. Written submission (DSR comment sheet) and attendance of a public meeting on 12 October 2007 in Tzaneen.	See Response to 2.1 (e). Reinstatement of the irrigation system on each property must be attended to individually and this detailed planning can commence only when the project is approved for implementation. The detailed planning must take place when land acquisition procedures can commence. Provision for continued irrigation in future will complicate estimation of compensation payable for the land required for the project
g. That the river front of Farm Janetsi may be lost if proposed development continues – will it be possible to pump directly from the new proposed dam?	Johan and Horst Gubitz, landowners.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Groot Letaba Water User Association offices, 31 July 2007 and meeting at Letaba Junction on 1 August 2007.	See Responses to 2.1 (e) and 2.1 (f). The installation of private pump installations in a dam basin, where the water level fluctuates over a wide range, is usually resisted because of the difficulties encountered with operation and maintenance. Technically, abstraction directly from the dam basin is one option that must be considered together with other options. Each case must be considered on merit.
h. That clarity must be provided whether present water allocations will be affected.	Edward Vorster, Landowner and several other landowners.	Attended meeting at Letaba Junction on 1 August 2007. Attended public meeting on 12 October 2007, Tzaneen.	See Responses to 2.1 (a), 2.1 (c) and 2.1 (e).
i. That clarity is needed on how sources of ground water will be compensated for that might possibly be under water should the proposed dam continue.	Willie Muller, Landowner. Jacobus du Toit . Bella Ombre, Kallie Erasmus, Corrie Venter and Willier Mulder landowners.	Attended meeting at Letaba Junction on 1 August 2007 and the meeting held at the offices of the Groot Letaba Water User Association on 31 July 2007. Written submission (DSR comment sheet) and attendance of public meeting on 12 October 2007 in Tzaneen.	Where boreholes are used to abstract groundwater for augmenting supplies from the river system and are lost when land is acquired for the project, compensation will be payable if a replacement source can not be arranged.

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j. That clarity must be provided for the compensation of dams on private land that might be lost due to the proposed project.	Koos de Nysschen, Landowner.	Attended meeting at Letaba Junction on 1 August 2007.	See responses to 2.1 (e) and (f). Land acquisition for actual losses will be undertaken by DWAF in terms of the Expropriation Act. Losses associated with private dams that cannot be replaced will be dealt with in this way.
k. That water for irrigation is currently being sourced from the river and that clarity is needed on how water rights will be handled in future?	Kallie Erasmus, Landowner.	Attended meeting at Letaba Junction on 1 August 2007.	See responses to 2.1 (a), 2.1 (e) and 2.1 (f).
l. That clarity be provided whether full water allocation will be kept even in cases where only part of your farm land is under water?	Unknown participant.	Attended meeting at Groot Letaba Water User Association offices, 31 July 2007.	See responses to 2.1 (a), 2.1 (c), 2.1 (e) and 2.1 (f).
m. How will water in the canal be channelled to reach the orchards of La Motte – after the proposed construction of the dam the water distribution network on the farm will be disrupted.	Mr Koos de Nysschen, Landowner.	Written submission (DSR comment sheet).	See responses to 2.1 (e) and 2.1 (f).
n. Will water be allocated for the ecology from the proposed dam as it is now being done from Tzaneen Dam?	Dr TK (Thomas) Gyedu-Ababio, Kruger National Park.	Written submission (DSR comment sheet) and attendance of the public meeting on 12 October 2007 in Tzaneen.	The Department of Water Affairs and Forestry is legally obliged to implement the Reserve, which includes water for ecological functioning, in the catchment. One of the motivations for the proposed new dam at the site known as Nwamitwa is to improve the Department's ability to exercise this responsibility. The Reserve requirements will be considered in the design of the proposed dam, the allocation of water, and the operation of the system as a whole.
o. Will the proposed raising of Tzaneen Dam decrease the frequency of water restrictions?	Louise Agenbag, Tzaneen resident	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	The proposal to raise Tzaneen Dam was motivated by the benefits to be gained from reducing the frequency, intensity and duration of future restrictions on water made available for irrigation. The GLeWaP Bridging Studies have confirmed that raising of the dam could equally be used to increase the water available for primary use at Tzaneen and surrounding areas. A reallocation of resources is necessary to meet present and future needs in all water use sectors and the optimal use of Tzaneen Dam (and all other dams in the system) is essential.

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p. That clarity must be provided whether the proposed dam will alleviate pressure on the Tzaneen Dam and whether the existing quotas will be taken over from the Tzaneen Dam.	Jan de Lang, Greater Tzaneen, Chamber of Business.	Attended meeting at Fairview Country Lodge, 31 July 2007, Tzaneen.	The proposed dam will create an additional management tool to regulate the flow of water as far as the border with Mozambique. The system of operating rules will be improved significantly.
2.2 2.2 Issues related to water supply and services			
a. That pipeline networks were installed for water supply in the villages but there is no water flowing regularly in them. People in the villages still struggle to get water.	Lady Chief Nwamitwa, Member of Parliament and Mr Timbali, resident of Nwamitwa village. Mr Daniel Mathye, member of the Community Policing Forum, Nwamitwa. Councillor Emily Ramolefo.	Attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007. Attendance at the public meeting on 13 October 2007, Nwamitwa. Attendance at the public meeting on 13 October 2007, Nwamitwa.	Positive liaison has been set up with Water Services Authorities to address the matter. A Water Services Technical Working Group was established between DWAF, the Study Team Specialists and the various municipalities in the project area to specifically discuss and plan for water supply to villages in the area.
b. That water for agricultural purposes should be considered.	Werner Booysen, Agri Limpopo.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Mopani District Municipality on 30 July 2007.	Improvement of the allocation and use of water from the Groot Letaba River system is one of the main objectives of the GLeWaP and is a core consideration in all investigations. It is recognized that irrigated agriculture is the main driver of the regional economy.
c. That the demand for water in 2020 will be double what is predicted by the presentation and there is a need to review the situation since budgets were approved for infrastructure development that will demand for a greater supply of water.	Duke Modjadji, Department of Finance and Economic Development, Polokwane.	Attendance at meeting at Mopani District Municipality on 30 July 2007.	See response to 2.2 (a). Alignment is being sought between provincial economic planning, municipal IDP's and the GLeWaP. A Technical Working Group on Water Services was established for this purpose.
d. That the expectation is that the proposed project will bring water to communities for domestic and agricultural use.	TT Shisinga, Raison Khosa, Daniel Mathye, Stanley Baloyi, Thomas Mathebula, Anna Mandlakazi, Ernest Makansi Risaba, Daniel Mathye, Samson Namwitwa, residents of Nwamitwa village. Abbey Shidudla Ndhlovu, Nwamitwa Farm.	Written submissions (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007. Written submission (DSR comment sheet).	Correct – in line with project objectives. Quantities confirmed in Technical Study Module.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
e. That water should be provided to every household in the area (Greater Tzaneen area).	Sophie Mongwe, resident of Mandlakazi village. Sasekani Ngomane, ANCE Youth League, Nwamitwa. Mrs Makhawukane Ngobeni. Greater Tzaneen Local Municipality.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007. Written submission (DSR comment sheet). Attendance at the public meeting on 13 October 2007, Nwamitwa.	See response to 2.2 (a). Referred to Water Service Authorities, for inclusion in WSDPs. GLeWaP proposes to improve bulk supplies.
f. That clarity must be provided on the terms for the 'development of other bulk water supply infrastructure' as per the presentations.	Andrew Mongwe, Mabunda Farmers Co-operative.	Attended a meeting at the offices of the Groot Letaba Water User Association in Tzaneen, 31 July 2007.	See response to 2.2 (a).
g. That Tivani (Pty) Limited is the holder of a registered prospecting right on the farm Mohlab's Location 567 LT, District Mopani, Limpopo. The present prospecting operations being conducted on the property indicate that mining operations will require a substantial supply of water.	TA Knobel, Tivani (Pty) Ltd, Parktown, Johannesburg.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Referred to Project Coordinator to obtain firm information on future water requirements for this as well as other planned mining undertakings.
h. That it be explained how this project will affect the water supply and water rights from the Letaba River.	Licence Trust, Tzaneen.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	See response to 2.1 (a).
i. That information be supplied about the impact of this proposed project on future water supply to the whole area and its inhabitants, also downstream of the dam.	RJ (Roelf) du Plooy, Old Mutual, Phalaborwa.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	The intention of the project is to improve the Water Service Provider's ability to provide water to the area and its inhabitants. The potential impact downstream of the dam is addressed in Chapters 9 and 11 of the Draft EIAR, and in the Water Quality, Sedimentation and Aquatic Ecology Specialist Studies. Issue to be clarified in Technical Study Module (TSM).

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j. That it was asked who will be responsible for water services to communities.	Unknown participant.	Attended meeting at Groot Letaba Water User Association offices, 31 July 2007.	See response to 2.2 (a). It is a joint responsibility. The Department of Water Affairs and Forestry: Directorate Options Analysis has taken responsibility now for the planning of bulk water supplies to reservoirs. The municipalities will be responsible to take the reticulation function further to ensure that communities do have water. There is a possibility that a regional operator be appointed/established for the management of the services.
k. That bulk water supply and further reticulation be investigated.	Willie Fratter, Lepelle Northern Water, Haenertsburg.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attended meeting at Fairview Country Lodge, 31 July 2007, Tzaneen.	See response to 2.2 (a). Bulk supply planning included in Technical Study Module. Reticulation of domestic supplies is a municipal function.
l. That the proposed and approved township of 2 000 erven on Janetsi farm portion 3 will most likely be dependent on water supply from the Letaba River – will DWAF supply water to this area?	Johan and Horst Gubitz, Landowners.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Groot Letaba Water User Association offices, 31 July 2007 and meeting at Letaba Junction on 1 August 2007.	Domestic water supplies are the responsibility of municipalities. Bulk supplies would be from an upgrade of the water treatment works.
m. That it is expected that the proposed project will bring about stable water supply for domestic and industrial needs.	Maria Hendricks, Blue Sands Trading, Tzaneen.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Noted.
n. That people are breaking water supply pipelines, throw dead animals in water supply networks, rivers and streams and that such actions should be punished, since water supply to villages is affected by such actions.	Denderemuka Daniel Rikhotso, Nwamitwa resident.	Written submission (DSR comment sheet).	Agreed. Any acts of vandalism should be reported to the responsible local authority.
o. Will water come to villages directly from DWAF or will it come from the municipalities?	Mr Sam Kubayi, SANCO.	Attendance at the public meeting on 13 October 2007, Nwamitwa.	It is proposed that the dam will supply water in bulk to municipalities to deliver to villages.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
2.3 2.3 Issues related to the ecological reserve and water quality			
a. That the ecological reserve is immediately implemented and monitored – pre, during and post development monitoring of the water quality and riverine ecology both up and downstream of the dam.	MK (Mick) Angliss, Limpopo Dept Economic Dev, Env & Tourism.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	The implementation of the Reserve is a complex process in which various aspects such as Basic Human Needs, Ecological Water Requirements, and Social and Economic Impacts of adjustments to allocations must be considered. A Preliminary Reserve has been determined and is factored in when applications for new licences are considered. Registration (completed), Validation (initiated) and Verification (initiated) of water use are further steps towards implementation of the Reserve. The requirements of the Preliminary Reserve were provided for in the hydrological analyses.
b. That all parties recognise from the outset that it is insufficient to state that the “ecological Reserve will be maintained”. Clarity must be obtained on why existing ecological reserves of water are not being maintained (e.g. in the Olifant’s River system even before construction of the De Hoop Dam, and in the Nyl River system and if this cannot be undertaken then this must be regarded as a fatal flaw.	Luke Perkins, Wildlife and Environment Society of SA (WESSA).	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	See response to 2.3 (a).
c. That the ecological reserve and downstream users be considered.	Dr TK (Thomas) Gyedu-Ababio, Kruger National Park.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	See 2.1 (n), Chapters 9 and 11 of the DEIAR and the Aquatic Ecology Specialist Study.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
d. That allocations for the Kruger National Park (KNP) and the allocations for the ecological reserve from the Tzaneen Dam will be affected by the proposed Nwamitwa Dam.	Dr TK (Thomas) Gyedu-Ababio, Kruger National Park. Ms Louise Agenbag, Tzaneen resident	Written submission (BID comment sheet). Written submission (BID comment sheet).	See 2.1 (n), Chapters 9 and 11 of the DEIAR and the Aquatic Ecology Specialist Study. Effective water conservation and demand management systems can contribute to the increased availability of water and must be pursued. However, estimates indicate that even optimistic projections will fall short of providing sufficient water to meet the requirements. If an optimistic 20% reduction in water requirements in domestic use is achieved as a result of water conservation and demand management initiatives in the long term, this could decrease the need for new water supplies by about 8 million m ³ per annum. This is far less than the objective set for this project. Also see DEIR Chapter 4.
e. That pollution of the water from the informal settlement area runs into the river through the Tzaneen Dam and it is affecting the quality of the existing water.	Jan de Lang, Greater Tzaneen Chamber of Business.	Attended meeting at Fairview Country Lodge, 31 July 2007, Tzaneen.	That the issues will be taken up with Mr Matukane, DWAF Regional Office.
2.4 2.4 Issues related to water flow / quantity			
a. That it was asked to what degree the proposed construction of the dam will increase evaporation losses in the river system.	Mr Sean O'Beirne, EIA peer reviewer.	Comments as part of a peer review of the Draft Scoping Report.	Evaporation losses is a known phenomenon and it is standard procedure in the planning stage to provide for such losses. This is addressed in the Technical Study Module in the hydrological system modelling.
b. Will streamflow increase or decrease with the proposed new dam, adding that any changes in streamflow will have impacts on storks, freshwater mussels, hippo, crocodile, and birds, such as Pell's Fishing Owl, in the nature reserve.	Ms Henriette Ferreira from the Hans Merensky Nature Reserve.	Attending a public meeting on 12 \october 2007, Tzaneen.	The dam would be operated to intercept water for storage during high flow events, whilst low flows would be routed through the dam and released at the outlet works. The ecological reserve in the river should ensure that the species mentioned are not affected. Streamflow could decrease due to more water users having access to water but flow will be better regulated and therefore the ecological Reserve should be stable. Consumptive use would not impact on the ecological Reserve of the river.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
c. The BID refers to water conservation and demand management as well as recycling and reuse of water. What specific measures are being implemented in this regard in the project area? Does DWAF have an official programme to address these water saving actions? As local resident the stakeholder is not aware of any such programmes in her area.	Louise Agenbag, Tzaneen resident	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	See Chapter 3.1 in the Scoping Report. Effective water conservation and demand management systems can contribute to the increased availability of water and must be pursued. However, estimates indicate that even optimistic projections will fall short of providing sufficient water to meet the requirements. If an optimistic 20% reduction in water requirements in domestic use is achieved as a result of water conservation and demand management initiatives in the long term, this could decrease the need for new water supplies by about 8 million m ³ per annum. This is far less than the objectives set for this project.
d. That Nodweni dam / weir is not mentioned when presentations refer to dams in the river system.	Sam Malatji, BaPhalaborwa Municipality.	Attendance at a meeting in Giyani at Mopani District Municipality on 30 July 2007.	Nodweni is a weir and does not have capacity to store water from high flow events such as the Tzaneen Dam by example. This and other weirs were built for operational reasons to regulate flow in the river system. It will maintain its functions as a weir in the operating system. The weir stores water mainly from releases made from upstream dams (currently Tzaneen Dam). Water is released into the Letaba River to flow to the Kruger National Park.
3. ISSUES RELATED TO ACCESS AND ROAD REALIGNMENT			
a. That the alignment of the roads will make access for labourers and workers very difficult – how will they travel to their work places which might be on the other side of the proposed dam?	Lady Chief Nwamitwa, Member of Parliament.	Attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007.	This issue was taken into account when evaluating the project alternatives (Chapter 4 in the EIA Report) and has been considered in Chapters 9 and 11 of the EIA Report as well as the Traffic and Social Impact Assessments.
b. That the distance from homes and work places will increase and that it will result in additional costs for transport. Subsidisation for transport need to be considered.	Lady Chief Nwamitwa, Member of Parliament.	Attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007.	See 3 (a)

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
c. That early / timeous communication with villagers take place so that proper planning can be done to ensure that should relocation have to take place, access to work places and Tzaneen be considered and addressed. Presently the distance from Nwamitwa to Tzaneen is approximately 39km and if relocation will take place, the distance will increase.	Lady Chief Nwamitwa, Member of Parliament.	Attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007.	See 3 (a).
d. That issues of transportation and access should be thoroughly investigated as it might affect farm workers in terms of production and transport arrangements. Most farm workers travel from their homes to farms where they work on a daily basis. Access is also important to schoolchildren – when existing rivers are full, children miss a school day, with the proposed dam the problem might increase.	BC (Burgert) van Rooyen, Group 91 Export. Mr Ngobeni, Ms Mashele and Mr Nkuna, Nkambako village and Rwanda village.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Groot Letaba Water User Association offices, 31 July 2007 and Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007. Site visit by the Social Impact Assessment Team.	See 3 (a).
e. That farmers down stream should be involved with the design and planning of road realignment.	Piet Vorster, Chairperson - Constantia Farmers' Union, Letsitele and several other members of the union.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Letaba Junction on 1 August 2007. Attendance at a public meeting 12 October 2007, Tzaneen.	Noted. See 3(a).
f. That information must be supplied about how the D1267 Road will be realigned.	P (Peter) Faul, Landowner, Riverside.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Letaba Junction on 1 August 2007.	See Figure 3.8 in the Draft EIA Report.
g. That if the project involves the movement of a community it will impact on the services that the Department of Health and related organisations are delivering (clinics). Therefore Health needs to be informed should this happen. Also with regards to roads as it impacts on emergency services.	Dr Matome Masipa, Department of Health and Social Development, Limpopo.	Attended meeting at Fairview Country Lodge, 31 July 2007, Tzaneen.	Noted. The project will not require the relocation of a community.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
h. Where the Eiland road might be affected by the dam, the road should not be re-aligned but a soil dam wall should be considered to accommodate the current alignment. This will decrease travelling distance. It is not easy to steer tractors round sharp bends, which will be a reality should soil dams not be possible.	Some of the landowners in the project area.	Site visit by the Social Impact Assessment Team.	See 3 (a).
i. That the proposed road re-alignment will result in an increase in traffic to Nwamitwa. Already there are too many accidents. A traffic light and speed bumps will have to be considered.	Some of the landowners in the project area.	Site visit by the Social Impact Assessment Team.	See 3 (a).
j. That it should be considered that the gravel road from Mandakhazi to Deerpark be tarred.	Some of the landowners in the project area.	Site visit by the Social Impact Assessment Team.	Upgrading of roads is outside the scope of the GLeWaP. It should be taken up directly with the municipality and the Roads Agency Limpopo.
k. That the re-alignment could include tarring the road from Msipane Health Centre to the road that is being tarred between Nwamitwa and ka Mvale.	Some of the landowners in the project area.	Site visit by the Social Impact Assessment Team.	See response to 3 (j).
l. That no new roads should be built near existing houses, as this will negatively impact on peace and quiet.	Some of the landowners in the project area.	Site visit by the Social Impact Assessment Team.	See 3 (a). Road re-alignment alternative 3 was not recommended by the EIA team based partially on the probable noise impact.
m. That all encroachment on provincial road reserves must be approved by the Limpopo Roads Agency before work is carried out within the road reserves.	Mbhazima Thomas Shivambu, Roads Agency Limpopo, Polokwane.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Noted. Referred to the Technical Study Module for the conceptual design of road relocations.
n. That the R529 should be re-aligned on an existing servitude road on La Gratitude North towards the D1292 and join between Karibu and De Nysschen – only one bridge has to be built over Taganashoek River. This option will have the least effect on the orchards on La Gratitude , Riverside, Taganashoek and Janetsi. As a second alternative: No change to the road, only use the existing Letsitele Road.	Mr Peter Faul, Landowner, Riverside 514 LT and La Gratitude 28. Mr Koos de Nysschen, landowner.	Written submission (DSR comment sheet) and attendance of the public meeting on 12 October 2007 in Tzaneen.	Noted. This suggestion was included as road re-alignment alternative 3 as indicated on Figure 3.11.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
o. That Constantia farmers will be severely effected by the re-alignment of roads – please include us in the planning process.	Mr Pieter Voster, Chairman, Constantia Farmers Association (Agri-Letaba), Letsitele.	Written submission (DSR comment sheet) and attendance of the public meeting on 12 October 2007 in Tzaneen.	Several meetings had been held with organised agriculture and representatives of the farming communities to involve stakeholders in the planning process. In the Agricultural Technical Working Group matters such as this were deliberated on in more detail.
4. ISSUES RELATED TO INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AND COOPERATIVE GOVERNANCE			
a. That a healthy relationship should be established between the municipalities and residents of Nwamitwa to ensure water supply to stakeholders.	Oris Mgobeni, Macson Hlahleni, residents of Nwamitwa village. Maria Nkhensani Mhlongo, Xihoko village.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007. Written submission (DSR comment sheet).	Referred to municipalities. The GLeWaP Project Steering Committee has been successful in bringing together stakeholders from Nwamitwa and the municipalities to discuss local needs.
b. That all sectors of society and stakeholders should work collectively for the success of the proposed project.	Ndhuma Mkhari, Ward 13 Councillor for Greater Tzaneen Municipality and Lunch Maswazi Maweni, resident of Nwamitwa village.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007.	Noted.
c. Will funds for the construction of the dam come from water users or government?	Mr John van Zetten, Tivani Pty (Ltd).	Attendance at a public meeting on 12 October 2007, Tzaneen.	The total cost of the dam cannot be transferred to the users and therefore government will be the main funding partner of the dam. However, costs will be recovered from payments for water use licences and rates in pricing strategy.
d. Which government body issues a water use licence to the Department, seeing that the Department is the implementing agent for the proposed project and cannot issue a water use licence to itself.	Ms Shoni Tshivhase, Road Agency Limpopo.	Attendance at a public meeting on 12 October 2007, Tzaneen.	The Minister has authority to construct Government Waterworks (GWW) and no licence is therefore required. Unless it is an emergency or minor scheme, the Minister must publish her intention to construct a GWW and give interested and affected parties opportunity to comment. She must consider comments before construction starts.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
e. That the project should be integrated into the various local municipal and provincial IDPs and Growth and Development Strategies.	<p>Nghuyuza Masilana, DWAF, Giyani.</p> <p>Willie Fratter, Lepelle Northern Water, Haenertsburg 2007.</p> <p>Duke Modjadji, Department of Finance and Economic Development, Polokwane.</p>	<p>Written submission (BID comment sheet).</p> <p>Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Fairview Country Lodge, 31 July 2007, Tzaneen.</p> <p>Attendance at meeting at Mopani District Municipality on 30 July 2007.</p>	Noted.
5. ISSUES RELATED TO RELOCATION / LAND ACQUISITION AND COMPENSATION			
a. How will landowners be compensated for income loss?	Kallie Erasmus, Willie Mulder, Corrie Venter, Landowners.	Telephonic conversation in response to the DRS.	Land acquisition and compensation will be undertaken by the Department in the manner prescribed by relevant legislation (i.e. the Expropriation Act) and the registered owner will receive market value for the land as compensation, plus a solatium, plus actual financial loss, which will put the person in a position to buy land of similar value elsewhere.
b. When will landowners be compensated for income loss? The planning in terms of these matters is critically important.	Kallie Erasmus, Willie Mulder, Corrie Venter, Landowners.	Telephonic conversation in response to the DRS.	The process of compensation can only commence once the project has been authorized and approved by the Minister. The need for appropriate timing of compensation has been forwarded to the DWAF. Also see response to 5 (a).
c. That clarity is needed in terms of which communities are going to be directly affected by the project and where will they be relocated or moved to?	<p>Lady Chief Nwamitwa, Member of Parliament.</p> <p>Mr Nkuna, Miss Mashele and Mr Ngobeni, Nkambako and Rwanda villages.</p> <p>Ms Louise Agenbag, Tzaneen resident</p>	<p>Attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007.</p> <p>Site visit by the Social Impact Assessment Team.</p> <p>Written submission (BID comment sheet).</p>	No communities are expected to be relocated as a result of this project. See the Social Specialist Study for more detail.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
<p>d. That concerns were expressed in terms of what will happen to ancestral graves in the project area should the graves have to be removed.</p> <p>Part of the area for the proposed dam construction could submerge traditional and ancestral land of great value to the people and also that people reside in that area. Ruins, gravesites, and other places of importance, such as places of worship, could be affected by the construction of the dam. Mr Ramalepe requested an opportunity to show the EIA team the location of the mentioned sites. Mr Ramalepe added that the communities of the area did not have the opportunity to identify graves when the Tzaneen Dam was built and that there were still graves submerged in the dam.</p>	<p>Mr and Mrs Nkuna, Rwanda village.</p> <p>Mr Lekgolo Ramalepe, BaKgaga BaMaupa Communal Property Association.</p>	<p>Site visit by the Social Impact Assessment Team.</p> <p>Attendance at the public meeting on 12 October 2007, Tzaneen.</p>	<p>The significance of the impact on graves has been determined in the Cultural Heritage Specialist Study project (Annexure J to the Draft EIA Report). The EIA team contacted and consulted Mr Ramalepe during the specialist investigations. All graves will be identified in the implementation phase of the project and the correct legal and cultural process for the relocation of graves that includes consultation with the closest relatives will be undertaken. Mr Ramalepe was satisfied with this approach.</p>
<p>e. That it was requested that the proposed acquisition process of commercial farming land be processed as soon as possible so that the affected land could be replaced ensuring that production is not lost.</p>	<p>BC (Burgert) van Rooyen, Group 91 Export.</p>	<p>Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Groot Letaba Water User Association offices, 31 July 2007 and Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007.</p>	<p>See response to 5 (a) and 5 (b). Land acquisition and compensation for actual losses will be undertaken by DWAF in terms of the Expropriation Act. This will commence as soon as the project has been approved.</p>
<p>f. That stakeholders living next to the dam should be relocated elsewhere to provide space for the construction of the dam.</p>	<p>TT Shisinga, Lunch Mswazi Maweni of Nkambako, Daniel Mathye – residents of Nwamitwa village and Khetane Amos Mongwe of the local Taxi Association.</p>	<p>Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007.</p>	<p>See response to 5 (c).</p>
<p>g. That relocation of stakeholders should go hand-in-hand with the building of houses, clinics, schools and recreational areas as required by the Constitution of the country.</p> <p>That directly affected residents and local communities be properly compensated.</p>	<p>Samson Nwamitwa, resident Nwamitwa village.</p> <p>Isaac Makatu, DEAT (Mopani).</p>	<p>Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007.</p> <p>Written submission (BID comment sheet).</p>	<p>See response to 5 (a) and 5 (c).</p>
<p>h. That farms will be divided by the proposed dam. Some will need a servitude road to reach parts of the farm. Logistical and economical impacts must be addressed and mitigated to ensure the economical viability of operations.</p>	<p>Some landowners in the project area.</p>	<p>Site visit by the Social Impact Assessment Team.</p>	<p>See response to 5 (a) and 5 (e).</p>

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
i. That farm size or distance between small parts may make farming unviable or unmanageable (e.g. location of packing shed, distance that can be travelled by tractors, cost of acquiring and maintaining large trucks as an alternative to tractors).	Some landowners in the project area.	Site visit by the Social Impact Assessment Team.	See response to 5 (a). The DWAF will compile a Compensation and Development Plan that will consider all impacted parties in accordance with the relevant legislation. Also see "boxes" 7.1 and 9.3 in the DEIR.
j. That time is required and assistance to implement all the changes as a result of the dam (e.g. build new dams, boreholes, build new packing sheds, planting new orchards). Should be compensated for loss of income as a result. Will need assistance (practical physical and financial) to replace and relocate facilities.	Some landowners in the project area.	Site visit by the Social Impact Assessment Team.	See response to 5 (a) and 5 (b) and 5 (e).
k. What will the effect of the project be on farms with successful land claims; i.e. in cases where land claims have been gazetted. Farmers still live on the land but are not allowed to plant or construct any buildings. How will these farmers be affected by the compensation and relocation process.	Mr Gerhardt Vorster, landowner and representing Laeveld Sitrus: Groot Letaba Sentraal Boerevereeniging.	Attending a public meeting on 12 October 2007, Tzaneen.	Additional pressure for relocation of residents of the proposed dam area could mean that the compensation and relocation process will be accelerated. The project team has had positive dealings with the Land Claims Commissioner for the Limpopo Province with the purpose of coordinating the relocation and compensation process.
l. That a relocation action plan be considered.	F J (Felix) Smith, DWAF.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	See response to 5 (a). The DWAF will compile a Compensation and Development Plan that will consider all impacted parties in accordance with the relevant legislation. Also see "boxes" 7.1 and 9.3 in the DEIR.
6. ISSUES RELATED TO THE ECOLOGY (AQUATIC SPECIES, VEGETATION) AND CONSERVATION			
a. That the movement of fish (the fish ladder) be considered.	Dr TK (Thomas) Gyedu-Ababio, Kruger National Park.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	The aquatic specialist study has found that, based on the data available at the time of undertaking the EIA, the dam could potentially impact on the distribution and quantity of fish in the affected river. The recommendation from the EIA team is that either additional investigations need to be undertaken to gain a more certain understanding of the probable impact of the dam, or to construct a fish ladder that will enable fish migration as a precaution.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
b. That it was enquired why ecological requirements incremented in tripled fold in the 2020 scenario that was presented.	Werner Booysen, Agri Limpopo.	Attendance at meeting at Mopani District Municipality on 30 July 2007.	The scenario is based on data that was available during the 1998 feasibility study. A preliminary reserve was approved by the Minister of Water Affairs and Forestry and the information will be updated with more recent information.
c. That the proposed project should improve the ecology along the river and the new proposed dam and should also focus on the protection of rare and sensitive fauna and flora in the proposed dam basin.	<p>Daniel Mathye, Thomas Mathebula, Stanley Baloyi, Samson Ngobeni (headman Valoyi Tribal Authority), Oris Mgobeni, Macson Hlahleni – resident Nwamitwa village.</p> <p>MK (Mick) Angliss, Limpopo Dept Economic Dev, Env & Tourism Ms CA (Chantal) Matthys, DWAF: WA&IU (Environment & Recreation).</p> <p>Isaac Makatu, DEAT (Mopani).</p>	<p>Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007.</p> <p>Written submission (BID comment sheet).</p> <p>Written submission (BID comment sheet).</p> <p>Written submission (BID comment sheet).</p>	Noted. One of the objectives of the project is to improve the Departments ability to manage the system in order to fulfil the ecological requirements of the system.
d. That the possible increase of invader plants species that might crowd out the indigenous riverine plants, congesting the water place be investigated.	Maria Hendricks, Blue Sands Trading, Tzaneen.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	The current situation under the full supply level is heavy infestation by numerous alien species. Please see the Aquatic Ecology Specialist, Annexure H to the Draft EIA Report, specifically sections 6-44 and 7-69 which includes recommending the following mitigation measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The prevention of exotic vegetation encroachment during the pre-construction and construction phases as well as bi-annual identification and removal of exotic vegetation within the Nwamitwa Dam basin during the operational phase. • The translocation of red data or rare riparian plant species to alternative areas. • Prevention of exotic vegetation encroachment.
e. That the impact of the proposed new project be investigated on the ecosystem and biodiversity, aquatic habitat, functioning of species.	CA (Chantal) Matthys, DWAF: WA&IU (Environment & Recreation).	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	See the Aquatic Ecology Specialist Study: Annexure H to the Draft EIA Report.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
f. That botanical and zoological surveys are carried out with reference to the latest publication on fauna and flora distribution, particularly the latest VegMap. Attention must be paid to the possible occurrence of biodiversity hotspots in the area.	Luke Perkins, Wildlife and Environment Society of SA (WESSA).	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	This was done. See the Terrestrial and Aquatic Ecology Specialist Studies: Annexures B and H to the Draft EIA Report, See page 6-9 and Appendix 4d.
g. That the engineering proposal factor in the expected 20% reduction in rainfall predicted by Climate Change scientists. The EIA must explain how this reduction has been factored in.	Luke Perkins, Wildlife and Environment Society of SA (WESSA).	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	The Environmental Assessment Practitioners consulted telephonically with Mr Chilis Dlamini of DEAT and Mr Chris Moseki at DWAF about the expected reduction in rainfall due to climate change. They indicated that at this stage the percentage reduction in rainfall due to climate change is not known at a local project level like for the Greater Tzaneen Municipality (N'wamitwa), Predicted global rainfall reduction cannot be projected directly down to a local level as some areas will have an increase and others a decrease in rainfall. These figures are not known. The Rainfall Runoff model makes provision for uncertainty that is accepted to accommodate these unknown variables..
h. That the riverine bush – recovery of wood should be considered.	JS (Johan) Barnard, Landowner.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	See Chapter 4 of the Draft EIA Report.
i. That indigenous knowledge on natural trees around the proposed project area be undertaken for record purposes.	Andrew Tshivhase, DWAF – Forestry, Limpopo Region, Louis Trichardt.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	The terrestrial ecologist employed the assistance of a local person knowledgeable, particularly in plants useful for medicinal purposes. See Terrestrial Ecology Specialist Study in Annexure B of the Draft EIA Report.
j. That the National DWAF – Forestry office is undertaking afforestation studies in Limpopo. Information from the studies might be helpful.	Andrew Tshivhase, DWAF – Forestry, Limpopo Region, Louis Trichardt.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Noted. For attention in the water resource assessment.
k. That information is needed on whether the precious trees on the river bed will be utilised effectively?	Willie Muller, Landowner.	Attended meeting at Letaba Junction on 1 August 2007 and the meeting held at the offices of the Groot Letaba Water User Association on 31 July 2007.	This recommendation will be forwarded to the implementation team. The EIA recommends removing the orchards and Mopani bush from the basin for water quality impact reasons.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
l. That most of the dams in the study area are silted up as a result of erosion from the adjacent badly managed land. What will the positive impacts be of a new dam in terms of the siltation situation in the river system?	Foletji Mahlakoane, National Department of Agriculture, LUSM, Polokwane.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	The impacts of the proposed Nwamitwa Dam on the sedimentation of the river is presented in Annexure M to the Draft EIA Report.
m. That mitigation should receive a high priority when protected species are removed.	Andrew Tshivhase, DWAF – Forestry, Limpopo Region, Louis Trichardt.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Please see the Terrestrial Ecology Specialist Study and Chapter 11 of the Draft EIA report.
n. The biodiversity offset mitigation measures for the Red Data, endemic and near endemic species that will be lost to the dam construction should be investigated.	Mr Wayne Hector, Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT), Pretoria	Written submission (Final Scoping Report)	It is not believed that any offsets (e.g. in the form of establishing conservation areas elsewhere) are required for this project. Mitigation in the form of plant and animal rescue from affected areas, and the establishment of a holding nursery will, however, be recommended.
o. The Mean Annual Runoff that can support the downstream ecology should be investigated as the construction of the dam will alter stream flow and Mean Annual Runoff	Mr Wayne Hector, Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT), Pretoria	Written submission (Final Scoping Report)	This is covered by the Reserve and addressed in the aquatic ecological specialist study.
p. Construction of the dam will have impact on aquatic species migratory routes and some might lose the spawning areas and habitat that support the critical stages of their life cycle e.g. the larval stage. Therefore migratory aquatic species should be investigated.	Mr Wayne Hector, Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT), Pretoria	Written submission (Final Scoping Report)	This aspect is addressed in the aquatic ecological specialist study.
q. There is a need to study the effects of this dam to the ecological functions and character of the river downstream in the Kruger National Park, especially the impacts on the protected wild flora and fauna that are entirely dependent on the river system for survival.	Mr Wayne Hector, Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT), Pretoria	Written submission (Final Scoping Report)	This is covered by the Reserve. When the Reserve is implemented and adhered to, the Kruger National Park will be adequately provided for.
r. That a license should be applied for to remove protected species in the proposed dam basin area.	Andrew Tshivhase, DWAF – Forestry, Limpopo Region, Louis Trichardt.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Noted. This will form part of the implementation of the project.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
7. ISSUES RELATED TO THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF THE DAM			
a. That safety for the people staying close to the proposed dam site should be considered when constructing the dam, Precaution should be taken not to cause floods during construction.	Raison Khosa, resident Nwamitwa village.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007.	Access control to the construction site is envisaged and should be respected by local residents. Further liaison between representatives of local communities and the construction team to take place during construction planning and construction. Natural floods cannot be managed. Downstream flooding during construction can only be lowered.
b. That dam safety should be addressed during construction and operation.	Mr Sean O'Beirne, EIA peer reviewer.	Comments as part of a peer review of the Draft Scoping Report.	The legally required dam safety requirements will be implemented in the design, construction and operation of the dam.
c. That it was asked whether it will be considered to clear the dam basin of vegetation before inundation.	Mr Sean O'Beirne, EIA peer reviewer.	Comments as part of a peer review of the Draft Scoping Report.	See Chapter 4 of the Draft EIA Report. The EAP recommends that for this dam the clearing of bushveld, trees and orchards be undertaken for water quality reasons.
d. That the effect on water quality as a result of pesticides and any other hazardous materials in the dam basin be investigated.	Mr Sean O'Beirne, EIA peer reviewer.	Comments as part of a peer review of the Draft Scoping Report.	Has been considered in the Water Quality Specialist Study Annexure A to the Draft EIA Report.
e. That whether the proposed construction of the dam will increase the likelihood of seismic activity in the area be investigated.	Mr Sean O'Beirne, EIA peer reviewer.	Comments as part of a peer review of the Draft Scoping Report.	Is considered by the Technical Study Module. Cases of similar and larger dams elsewhere shows little, if any likelihood of such effects.
f. That construction workers should stay in their own camp to avoid conflicts with local villagers.	Anonymous residents of Nwamitwa and Nkambako villages.	Site visit by the Social Impact Assessment Team.	The EIA was based on the assumption that construction workers will be housed at Letsitele or another existing residential area.
g. That the farm of the stakeholder is where the dam wall will be. What is the process that will be followed and from which side will development / construction start?	Dirk Venter, Landowner.	Attendance at meeting at Letaba Junction on 1 August 2007.	See response to 5 (a) and 5 (b). The land around the dam is required early in the process for entry roads etc and the land for the dam basin only later.
h. That action plans when the proposed dam might be in flood should be developed.	Piet Vorster, Chairperson - Constantia Farmers' Union, Letsitele.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Letaba Junction on 1 August 2007.	Noted. Will be included in Dam Management Plan required by law.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
i. That information must be provided concerning the size of the dam as the farmers need to know whether the dam will affect them.	P (Peter) Faul, Landowner, Riverside.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Letaba Junction on 1 August 2007.	<p>The size of the dam will influence the cost, structure etc but the dam will be as small as possible with maximum benefit. At present a full supply level (FSL) of 479,5 mamsI with a storage capacity of 187 million m³ is envisaged.</p> <p>Several meetings had been held with organised agriculture and representatives of the farming communities to involve stakeholders in the planning process. In the Agricultural Technical Working Group matters such as this were deliberated in more detail.</p>
8. ISSUES RELATED TO SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT			
a. That the social impacts that the project might have on the traditional structures as a result of the proposed project, for example the proposed relocation process be investigated.	Percy Mhinga, Limpopo Roads Agency, Polokwane.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Fairview Country Lodge, 31 July 2007, Tzaneen.	See the Social Specialist Study Annexure C to the Draft EIA Report..
b. That clarity must be provided whether the proposed dam will affect the "Tambaka" tribe.	Tengani Andrew Mongwe, Mabunda Farmers Co-op, Letsitele.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	The Tambaka town is not affected by land requirements.
8.1 8.1 Issues related to employment creation			
a. That it is expected that the proposed project will create many job opportunities for local stakeholders to alleviate poverty in the area.	<p>Samson Ngobeni, Ndhuma Mkhari, Ward 13 Councillor of Greater Tzaneen Municipality.</p> <p>Stanley Baloyi, Rhutani Casswell Baloyi, David Mashadu Rapitsi, residents of Nwamitwa village.</p> <p>Princess Nomthetho, ANC Women's League, Nwamitwa.</p> <p>Ms Mokgadi Mmola, Greater Tzaneen Municipality.</p>	<p>Written submissions (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007.</p> <p>Written submission (DSR comment sheet).</p> <p>Attendance at the public meeting on 13 October 2007, Nwamitwa.</p>	<p>Noted. Employment will be arranged through a labour desk with assistance of community representatives.</p> <p>See The Economic Specialist Study, Annexure D to the Draft EIA Report , for an indication of expected impacts.</p>

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
b. That people interested in job opportunities during the construction of the proposed dam should have a valid building certificate, security certificate and a driver's license.	Sophie Mongwe of Mandlakazi village.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007.	Noted. Will be referred to labour desk.
c. That job opportunities should be created for the Nwamitwa inhabitants.	Themba Ebby Mboweni, Spero Properties, Tzaneen.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Noted. See 8.1 (b).
d. That the socio-economic issues such as job creation, unemployment should be investigated.	Maria Hendricks, Blue Sands Trading, Tzaneen.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Noted. Referred to Annexure C and D of the Draft EIA Report and Labour Desk.
e. That contract workers be monitored carefully to avoid issues such as an increase of HIV/AIDS in the area.	Anonymous residents, Nkambako village.	Site visit by the Social Impact Assessment Team.	The issue is assessed in the Health Specialists Study, Annexure K to the Draft EIA Report.
f. That concerns were raised whether existing farm workers will lose their jobs, if the proposed dam may result in taking away productive farm lands.	Ms Beaty Senama and Ms Pearl Mukhare, Karoos Farm.	Site visit by the Social Impact Assessment Team.	This issue is assessed in the Economic Specialist Study. Annexure D to the Draft EIA Report.
g. That the larger part of the affected area to be covered by the proposed project was originally inhabited by the members of the BaKgaga MaMaupa tribe or community who were dispossessed of their land, removed and or resettled from the area by the previous white governments. These resettled members still have important sacred and heritage places they adore, e.g. graves, ancestral places, places of worship.	LL (Lekgola) Ramalepe, BaKgaga BaMaupa Communal Property Association.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	See Heritage Resources Specialist Study, Annexure J to the Draft EIA Report. Also see response to 5 (d).
8.2 8.2 Issues related to the development of the local / socio economy			
a. That the availability of water in the area will assist in commercialising some opportunities such as the establishment of a car washing facility.	Khetane Amos Mongwe, Local Taxi Association Nwamitwa.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007.	Noted.
b. That the Limpopo Province has commissioned a socio-economic assessment that may feed into the investigations of the project.	Duke Modjadji, Department of Finance and Economic Development, Polokwane.	Attendance at meeting at Mopani District Municipality on 30 July 2007.	Noted. The results of this study are to be used in the Economic Evaluation of the project.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
9. ISSUES RELATED TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT			
9.1 9.1 Issues related to the EIA process and specialist studies			
a. Why was it decided to submit only one EIA application for the proposed Nwyamitwa Dam and the raising of the Tzaneen Dam. In her opinion, it should have been two applications.	Ms Shoni Tshivhase, National Roads Agency (Limpopo).	Written submission (DSR comment sheet) and attendance of the public meeting on 12 October 2007 in Tzaneen.	The overall understanding of the project is that it is about improving the ability to manage the water in the Groot Letaba catchment. Both the proposed new dam at the site known as Nwamitwa and the possible raising of the Tzaneen dam are options that could contribute to achieving this. Mr Booysen said that his opinion was that a holistic approach should be taken in terms of the EIA, i.e. only one EIA process should be followed and not two. This will mean that meetings are to be combined and that time spent by stakeholders attending meetings will be lessened. The matter is also addressed in the EMPs.
b. The EIA does not consider human-animal interaction in the region. Hippo attacking humans, and even vehicles, is highly problematic in the Tzaneen region. Environmental departments of government do not take action on this matter. Such departments should come to the region and inform stakeholders of what action will be taken regarding the matter.	Mr Werner Booysen, Mooketsi Farmers Union.	Written submission (DSR comment sheet) and attendance of the public meeting on 12 October 2007 in Tzaneen.	See Aquatic Ecology Specialist Study, Annexure H to the Draft EIA Report. The dam may accommodate populations of the already existing hippo communities. This animal is already found throughout the area, including all of the rivers, is a protected species (IUCN and National Biodiversity Act) and is not easily moved (huge cost involved). The possible mitigation is to restrict access to areas where dangerous fauna may occur during the construction and operational phases.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
c. That sedimentation (likelihood of that in the dam and downstream) be investigated.	Mr Sean O'Beirne, EIA peer reviewer. Dr TK (Thomas) Gyedu-Ababio, Kruger National Park.	Comments as part of a peer review of the Draft Scoping Report. Written submission (DSR comment sheet) and attendance of the public meeting on 12 October 2007 in Tzaneen.	See Sedimentation Specialist Study, Annexure M to the Draft EIA Report.
d. That slumping or sliding of slopes of the dam due to inundation be investigated.	Mr Sean O'Beirne, EIA peer reviewer.	Comments as part of a peer review of the Draft Scoping Report.	Slope stability is a major consideration in the conceptual design and detailed design of the dam.
e. That the Environmental Management Plan for the proposed project should address the closure and rehabilitation of borrow areas.	Mr Sean O'Beirne, EIA peer reviewer.	Comments as part of a peer review of the Draft Scoping Report.	Draft Environmental Management Programmes for the proposed borrow areas have been prepared and are available for comment prior to submitting them to DME.
f. That separate EIAs for borrow areas should be conducted and submitted to LEDET.	Mr Mick Angliss, LEDET (Limpopo Environmental Affairs).	Written submission (DSR comment sheet).	Three borrow areas have been identified (see Figure 3.8 in the Draft EIA Report) and Environmental management programmes for submission to DME have been prepared and are available for public comment..
g. That the potential role of water conservation strategies be investigated.	Dr Anthony Swemmer, SAEON Ndlovu Node.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	See Chapter 3.1 in the Scoping Report. Effective water conservation and demand management systems can contribute to the increased availability of water and must be pursued. However, estimates indicate that even optimistic projections will fall short of providing sufficient water to meet the requirements. If an optimistic 20% reduction in water requirements in domestic use is achieved as a result of water conservation and demand management initiatives in the long term, this could decrease the need for new water supplies by about 8 million m ³ per annum. This is far less than the objectives set for this project.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
h. That appropriate mitigation measures be investigated and implemented during the proposed construction phase of the dam to prevent any negative impacts on groundwater resources in the area.	Willem du Toit, DWAF Limpopo.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Groundwater has not been addressed as a specific environmental aspect that requires "protection". A number of management and mitigation plans deal directly or indirectly with construction activities that may impact on groundwater. See more information in the EMPs.
i. That the limited value of the proposed dam in addressing regional water shortages.	Dr Anthony Swemmer, SAEON Ndlovu Node	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Noted. The main purpose of the project is to provide additional secure supplies of water for domestic use, to implement the Reserve and to minimize negative impacts of water shortages on irrigation.
j. That the EIA investigations should reveal how many hectares of prime and unique agricultural land is going to be lost to people due to the proposed dam.	Foletji Mahlakoane, National Department of Agriculture, LUSM, Polokwane.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	A total of 3,864 ha of land will be inundated by the proposed dam at the site known as Nwamitwa with a total of 14,138 m ² buildings. The estimated compensation value of which amounts to R 163,787, 584. The estimated land lost as part of the GLeWaP infrastructure which is not within existing servitudes is 350 ha with an estimated compensation value of R6,388,800.
k. That vegetation verification studies and studies on endemism and flora and fauna be undertaken as part of the specialist studies.	Andrew Tshivhase, DWAF – Forestry, Limpopo Region, Louis Trichardt.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	The project is not situated in any centres of plant endemism (Chapter 5.5 of the Scoping Report).
l. That the impact on agricultural land be investigated.	Labane Leballo, Lepelle Northern Water Board and several directly affected landowners in the dam basin area.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	This is being investigated. See Chapter 9.2.4 in the Scoping Report.
m. That botanical and zoological specialists be appointed to conduct the Scoping Report. The EIA must also show how they have taken into account the expected 20% rainfall reduction.	Luke Perkins, Wildlife and Environment Society of SA (WESSA).	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Addressed in Chapters 8.9 and 9.2.2 in the Scoping Report.
n. That the EIA findings should be presented to the provincial Department of Environmental Affairs for speedy evaluation. It was also asked why the National Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism is the regulating authority for the project's EIA.	Duke Modjadji, Department of Finance and Economic Development, Polokwane.	Attendance at meeting at Mopani District Municipality on 30 July 2007.	This activity is being undertaken by the national Department of Water Affairs and Forestry. Section 24(C) of NEMA, as amended, indicates that if an activity is to be undertaken by a national Department the Minister of DEAT is the Competent Authority..

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
o. That the environmental rehabilitation and restoration aspects and costs should be considered from inception, through operations, closure and ongoing maintenance phases of the project.	CA (Chantal) Matthys, DWAF: WA&IU (Environment & Recreation).	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Noted. The EIA of the project includes the compilation of framework Environmental Management Plans for the pre-construction and construction phases of the project. These EMPs will have to be finalised if the project is authorised and more detailed information becomes available during implementation. .
p. That the question of sustainability as per the SA Water Policy must be considered by DWAF in terms of the number of dams, by infinite quantities of water, to sustain increasing numbers of people rather than the reality that ecological constraints will limit the number of people who can live in this area.	Luke Perkins, Wildlife and Environment Society of SA (WESSA).	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Noted. Planning of this project is consistent with the National Water Resource Strategy where various interventions such as resource reallocation and resource protection are included. Reconciliation of demand and supply for each resource is ongoing at a strategic level.
q. That the study should consider the necessary heritage components, dam safety and declarations of flood lines to ensure public safety.	Isaac Makatu, DEAT (Mopani).	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	See the Heritage Resources Specialist Study, Annexure J to the Draft EIA Report. Dam safety issues will be addressed as design criteria.
r. The process (EIA) to be followed appears acceptable.	MK (Mick) Angliss, Limpopo Dept Economic Dev, Env & Tourism.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Noted.
s. That the EIA specialist studies should consider the possibility of increased water borne diseases such as malaria.	Maria Hendricks, Blue Sands Trading, Tzaneen.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	See Health Impact Assessment, Annexure K to the Draft EIA Report.
t. That the EIA's social studies should include mitigation measures that should address social impacts resulting from delayed social benefits.	Percy Mhinga, Limpopo Roads Agency, Polokwane.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Fairview Country Lodge, 31 July 2007, Tzaneen.	See Social Specialist Study, Annexure C to the Draft EIA Report.
u. That the project team should not lose sight of HIV/Aids as a possible impact in the process of proposed project implementation.	Gandhi Moetlo, Department of Health and Social Development, Polokwane.	Attendance at meeting at Fairview River Lodge in Tzaneen on 31 July 2007.	See Health Impact Assessment, Annexure K to the Draft EIA Report.
v. That DDT pollution should not be a concern, since the Department only uses it inside houses and equipment is not washed into any water sources.	Dr Matome Masipa, Department of Health and Social Development, Limpopo.	Attended meeting at Fairview Country Lodge, 31 July 2007, Tzaneen.	Noted.
w. That the EIA investigations consider the identification of cumulative and latent impacts as a result of the development of the project as well as potential off-spin projects.	Percy Mhinga, Limpopo Roads Agency, Polokwane.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Fairview Country Lodge, 31 July 2007, Tzaneen.	Noted.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
x. That the feasibility study concluded in 1998 included all the steps that are presented to be followed now to conduct the process to obtain authorisation – why going through it all again?	Louis van Rooyen, Chairperson of the Groot Letaba Water User Association and Landowner.	Attended meeting at Groot Letaba Water User Association offices, 31 July 2007.	DWAF in 1998 indeed looked proactively into the possible environmental impacts that the proposed project might have, however environmental authorisation in terms of NEMA is required before the process might go ahead. NEMA looks at environmental impacts in depth, including the socio, economic and natural environment impacts that projects might have.
y. That the life expectancy of the dam be calculated as well as expected siltation rates. DWAF must conduct a cost/benefit analysis of constructing the dam vs. not constructing it, taking into account the short life span of the dam and the likely impact it will have on biodiversity downstream. They must also indicate what measures will be implemented once the dam's life is over.	Luke Perkins, Wildlife and Environment Society of SA (WESSA).	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Noted. See Specialist Study on the Sedimentation Impact, Annexure M to the EIR. Referred to in the Technical Study Module where siltation and economic aspects are addressed. The siltation rate is accounted for in the live storage capacity and the dam is intended to have a very long economic life.
9.2 9.2 Issues related to information presented in the Draft Scoping Report (and alternatives)			
a. In figure 5.4 (conservation importance of plants) the grasslands around Haenertsburg are allocated a 'low' conservation importance. There must be some mistake here, despite the comprehensive formula used to allocate values as described in the text. The Haenertsburg Grasslands are almost the last intact remnant of Woodbush Granite Grassland (WGG) which SANBI has allocated the highest conservation importance in Limpopo Province (please see Mucina & Rutherford 2006 which the Draft Scoping Report has also used as its key reference). Although the WGG are unlikely to be impacted by the proposed development (as mentioned in chapter 8), it is possible that other consultants will refer to this map for other projects. For reasons of accuracy, the map should be modified.	Luke Perkins, Wildlife and Environment Society of SA (WESSA).	Written submission (DSR Comment Sheet and email).	The map units represent an integration of vegetation types and transformation. All transformed areas were assessed to have low conservation importance, regardless of the status of the vegetation type. That is why some areas of WGG are rated as low.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
b. The plant study seems very superficial. Only threatened plant species are going to be looked at. No consideration is given to plants which are being used by the local communities. Indigenous plants are well known for being safety nets in times of economic pressure and drought for rural communities as has been shown by work done by Prof. Charlie Shackleton, Dr Wayne Twine and others on useful plants. In essence poor people are losing their green safety net to supply water to the wealthy.	Ms Cathy Dzerefos, Environmental Scientist.	Written submission (DSR comment sheet).	Not only threatened plant species were looked at. Full checklists have been provided with Protected and Endemic species highlighted as well. Consideration of plants which are being used by the local communities have also been considered. See Terrestrial Ecology Specialist Study, Annexure B to the Draft EIA Report..
c. The figures 5.4 to 5.8 are all identical. This must also be a mistake as they supposedly give the conservation importance of plants, mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians, and lastly invertebrates. Whatever methodology was followed to create these maps, it simply cannot be that ALL these fauna and flora have the exact same spatial distribution in terms of conservation importance. If figures 5.4 to 5.8 are used as a guide, they will not be basing their studies on realistic conservation importance values.	Luke Perkins, Wildlife and Environment Society of SA (WESSA).	Written submission (DSR Comment Sheet and email).	Although the polygon configurations on every map are the same - since they represent a static interpretation of transformation overlaid on vegetation type - the conservation values of fauna and flora within those polygons are variable. The maps are correct.
d. Under alternatives the report presents that invasive plants and indigenous plants would consume the same amount of water so plantations might as well be left in place. This is scientifically inaccurate and shows that this alternative has not been looked at properly. A gum tree is known to consume a huge amount of water whereas natural grasslands act as sponges slowly releasing water. Also wattles and gums release waxes into the soil so water washes away quickly. It is recommended that the scientific information that is available be relooked and that relevant specialists provide a proper assessment on this. Rehabilitating the water catchment would provide water for a longer period of time, conserve biodiversity, reduce impacts of climate change and improve ecotourism opportunities.	Ms Cathy Dzerefos, Environmental Scientist.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	This comment is true for natural grassland areas as mentioned. The natural vegetation in the afforested areas of the study area is, however, not grasslands but natural forests. In this case the difference is very much less.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
e. Figure 8.1 (intrinsic biodiversity importance) again has the Haenertsburg Grasslands (and the Grasslands adjoining Ebenezer Dam) as 'low' importance. SANBI regards them as 'Totally Irreplaceable'. While they might not be impacted on by the proposed development, I feel it is nevertheless important to rectify this before the next stage. This map should NOT be used by anyone else or in any other EIA.	Luke Perkins, Wildlife and Environment Society of SA (WESSA).	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	See 2.9 (b) and (c).
f. Insufficient attention has been paid to looking at alternatives. The consultants seem sold on the idea of the "big pipe" approach which in other countries is seen as a last alternative.	Ms Cathy Dzerefos, Environmental Scientist.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	<p>Alternatives have been discussed in detail in Chapter 4 of the Scoping Report. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do Nothing • Replacing Commercial Afforestation with Natural Vegetation • Ceasing Export of Water to the Sand River Catchment • Improve Utilization Efficiency of Irrigation Water • Decrease Irrigation Allocations • Water Loss Management: Domestic and Industrial and • Improving water management in all water sectors. <p>Although these alternatives can contribute partially to improving the management of water resources in the catchment, none of them can do so adequately on their own.</p> <p>In addition to these alternatives. Project level alternatives are discussed in Chapter 4 of the Draft EIA Report. It should also be noted that this infrastructure development project is not being implemented in isolation, but that several non-infrastructure development initiatives (Chapter 3.1 of the Scoping Report, and Chapter 4 of the Draft EIA Report) form part of the greater project.</p>

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
g. Removal of invasive trees is seen as a job loss in the Draft Scoping report. Agreed to a certain extent if one talks about permitted legal plantations. However there are numerous areas in the catchment with pines, gums and wattles growing in or next to the water drainage lines these need to be removed. Natural grasslands in the Wolkberg wilderness area are infested with pines these need to be removed. The farm Acre in the Wolkberg Wilderness area which was illegally planted to gums by Mondi has never been properly rehabilitated. Working for Water does not seem to have enough capacity to tackle the problem significantly thus improving the catchment area significantly.	Ms Cathy Dzerefos, Environmental Scientist.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	The reference to job losses in the Scoping Report refers specifically to decommissioning commercial afforestation only. The concerns that the Working for Water programme does not receive due attention will be forwarded to Working for Water programme manager
h. A study by the World Commission on Dams in 2000 concluded that better management to reduce the demand for water has a great potential to reduce water stress. Please consult this report to get a better understanding of dams and their positives and negatives.	Ms Cathy Dzerefos, Environmental Scientist.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	The findings of the World Commission of Dams has been considered in the Impact Assessment (See Section 6.4 of the Scoping Report and Chapter 6 of the DEIR).
i. Provide statistics of when Tzaneen dam was last full. It is estimated that the Tzaneen Dam was last full after the 2000 floods. This indicates that the upperstream catchment is insufficient. Why not? Invasive alien plants are clogging up streams and rivers and grassland are infested with alien plants. Surely it is logical to use Tzaneen dam and its catchment at maximum capacity before building another dam downstream of this is an area which has an even higher evapotranspiration rate? On this same topic why is the raising of the Ebenezer dam wall not being considered?	Ms Cathy Dzerefos, Environmental Scientist.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	The Tzaneen Dam last spilled on 7 April 2002. The proposed new dam is much lower down the river system and can regulate runoff from the intervening catchment. The merits of raising Ebenezer Dam are being evaluated.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
<p>j. The alternative of ceasing export of water to the Sand River catchments i.e. Polokwane was considered but no emphasis is given to waterwise education of the public or to storage facilities near Polokwane. In Polokwane on a hot dry day, irrigation of sports fields, gardens and municipal leaks are a common sight. Yet this report does not consider wastage and is promoting more wastage into the future by recommending a dam. There are numerous examples particularly from Australia showing that Waterwise education can significantly reduce amount of water used in cities. In Sidney municipal rebates are given to people who have a rain water tank for watering their gardens such initiatives have been shown to decrease amount of water needed considerably. In the municipality of the City of Salisbury also. Australia storm and waste water from roofs and streets are directed to a series of 28 artificial wetlands and then re used by the city. Rand Water in Gauteng should also be consulted about the impact which they have had at the level of conscientising the public as they have been very active at the level of schools, golf courses and nurseries. Limpopo province has minimal waterwise education taking place and yet we are the most likely to be struck by drought. Polokwane is a young developing city and there is tremendous opportunity to develop storage facilities where they are actually needed. A proper desktop investigation is recommended on cities and water wise initiatives.</p>	<p>Ms Cathy Dzerefos, Environmental Scientist.</p>	<p>Written submission (BID comment sheet).</p>	<p>The implementation of a water conservation and demand management strategy in the catchment will be part of the larger project. These actions will not, however, on their own, sufficiently address the implementation of the Reserve and provision of potable water for rural villages in the Province. The views expressed on Waterwise education will be conveyed to DWAF.</p>

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
9.3 9.3 Issues related to Public Participation			
a. Previously disadvantaged communities have difficulty accessing information about the proposed project and EIA because they do not have access to the internet and other information media. The project team should provide information on the radio and announce where the process will take place and how people can participate. Another option would be to send a letter to the tribal authorities so that they can inform the people.	Mr Lekgolo Ramalepe from the BaKgaga BaMaupa Communal Property Association	Written submission (DSR comment sheet) and attendance of the public meeting on 12 October 2007 in Tzaneen. A separate conversation was also held with the participant after the meeting on 12 October 2007.	The process is being advertised on radio and written information (letters and reports) are being sent to stakeholders (including tribal authorities), in many instances in various languages. Please see Chapter 7 on the detailed activities of the public participation process of the EIA.
b. That it is suggested that a 3 rd public meeting to present the contents of the Draft Scoping Report be held at Nkowankowa or Lenyenye to enable accessibility to people relocated on the southern side of the Great Letaba River.	Mr Lazarus Lekgolo Ramalepe, Bakgaga Bamaupa Communal Property Association	Written submission (DSR comment sheet) and attendance of the public meeting on 12 October 2007 in Tzaneen. A separate conversation was also held with the participant after the meeting on 12 October 2007.	The matter was resolved with the stakeholders at a separate meeting after the public meeting on 12 October 2007. The mentioned communities will be directly involved with the grave identification process during the proposed implementation of the project..
c. That an on-site Project Steering Committee is a requirement where all sectors of society can be represented.	Gandhi Moetlo, Department of Health and Social Development, Polokwane.	Attendance at meeting at Fairview River Lodge in Tzaneen on 31 July 2007.	A Project Steering Committee was established and had its inception meeting on 29 March 2007. The committee has since met in August 2007 and March 2008. The committee will meet regularly to discuss strategic issues. The committee is represented by all spheres of government, relevant sectors and traditional authorities.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
d. That the process is being conducted in a highly satisfactory manner, however more needs to be done to intensify awareness creation to municipal ward councillors and traditional leadership.	Mr Israel Raphalalani, DWAF Mopani.	Written submission (DSR comment sheet).	Opportunities for engagement were widely advertised throughout the phases of the project. Extensive efforts were made to mobilise municipal ward councillors and traditional leadership to make use of the opportunities to engage. Please see chapter 7 on the detailed activities of the public participation process of the EIA. Positive liaison has been set up with Water Services Authorities to address the matter. A Water Services Technical Working Group was established between DWAF, the Study Team Specialists and the various municipalities in the project area to specifically discuss and plan for water supply to villages in the area.
e. That chiefs and the community should be addressed before the commencement of the project.	AE (Alingan Ephraim) Hlungwani, National African Farmers Union. Maria Sathekge from the Nwamitwa Ward Committee.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Announcements about the project and invitations to stakeholders to become involved have been widely distributed and advertised in the media. Please see chapter 7 on the detailed activities of the public participation process of the EIA.
f. That a bottom-up consultation strategy should be used, prioritising grassroots communities – all stakeholders should be included in the participation process.	Moses Mahasha, In-Touch Community Development and Project Managers, Tzaneen. Ms Maria Nkhensani Mhlono, Xihoko village.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Fairview Country Lodge, 31 July 2007, Tzaneen. Written submission (DSR comment sheet).	All stakeholders are welcome to participate in the public participation process. Special efforts are being made to reach community structure through municipality ward councillors, traditional authorities, the media, NGOs, community-based organisations and other representative groups in a variety of languages. Please see chapter 7 on the detailed activities of the public participation process of the EIA.
g. That it seems that nothing has been decided yet and is it was asked whether it is not premature to talk to stakeholders.	Louis van Rooyen, Chairperson of the Groot Letaba Water User Association and Landowner.	Attended meeting at Groot Letaba Water User Association offices, 31 July 2007.	Engagement with stakeholders is never too soon, especially since the bridging studies have to be informed by the concerns and input of stakeholders.
h. That training be provided to the stakeholders otherwise they will not understand the technical terms used during meetings.	P (Pramod) Sinha, DWAF.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Special efforts are made to keep information as widely accessible as possible. Information is provided in the language of choice of stakeholders. Translators and interpreters are used throughout the process to explain technical terms.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
i. That usually people are given two weeks to comment on the draft Scoping Report and it is not sufficient.	Shirley Lebelo, Department of Economic Development, Environment and Tourism – (Polokwane DEDET)	Attended meeting at Fairview River Lodge, Tzaneen on 31 July 2007	The time allowed for comments is 30 days as required by the Regulations.
j. That clarity is required in terms of the consultation process. He expected all farmers to be present at the meeting; if they are consulted separately, why is it so and what is being discussed that other groups are not supposed to know?	Acting Chief Walter Mbhalati, Nwamitwa village.	Attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007.	This government project takes place within the Mopani District Municipality, which includes four local municipalities in its area. Provincial government, business, NGOs, the conservation and water sector, CBOs and other stakeholders are all part of the interested and affected parties involved in the process. During the announcement phase of the project, meetings, similar to the meeting in Nwamitwa were scheduled for Giyani, Letsitele and Tzaneen to provide the opportunity for as many as possible representatives to attend and receive and share information. Stakeholders from Nwamitwa's Water User Association, such as Mr Thomson Hlungwane and his colleagues have attended meetings in Giyani and Tzaneen. Meetings in subsequent stages were also held at different venues throughout the project area. All meetings are open to all stakeholders.
k. That radio stations such as Munghana Lo'nene, Sebatasa Moyeni and Radio Jacaranda be used to convey messages about the projects.	Themba Ebby Mboweni, Spero Properties, Tzaneen.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Noted, radio stations are being used in the process to convey message, Jacaranda and a number of other radio stations has already made announcements about the process. Please see chapter 7 on the detailed activities of the public participation process of the EIA.
l. That chiefs and traditional leaders should become involved in the process and receive written invitations to participate.	Themba Ebby Mboweni, Spero Properties, Tzaneen Neliekie Mukhombo, Mashishimale Community Development Trust.	Written submission (BID comment sheet). Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Written invitations have been distributed to Chiefs. Please see chapter 7 on the detailed activities of the public participation process of the EIA.
m. That commercial farmers attend meetings in villages to bring along their experiences and knowledge for skills transfer to the emerging farmers in the villages.	Lady Chief Nwamitwa, Member of Parliament and Mr Timbali, resident of Nwamitwa village.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007.	All meetings are open for any stakeholders to attend – response by the Public Participation office
n. That it was recommended that special efforts be made to include the youth in the project area.	Tengani Andrew Mongwe, Mabunda Farmers Co-op, Letsitele.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Noted. Please refer to Appendix 7 of the DEIR for a list of the registered stakeholders.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
o. That special effort should be made to engage local communities not conversant in English, those remotely located and those that are vulnerable members of society.	Percy Mhinga, Limpopo Roads Agency, Polokwane.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Fairview Country Lodge, 31 July 2007, Tzaneen.	Special efforts are being made and will continue to be made. Documents are being translated in XiTsonga, Sepedi and Afrikaans and translators are being used at meetings with communities. All meeting participants may speak the language of their choice.
p. That the DWAF and EIA project team assist the community to understand the entire process with regards to understanding the various components of the project.	Lady Chief Nwamitwa, Member of Parliament and Mr Timbali, resident Nwamitwa village.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007.	Several steps in the process allow for interaction between stakeholders, DWAF and the project team to share a common understanding about the project. Written communication is distributed and meetings are taking place throughout the project's duration to facilitate common understanding.
q. That it is very good that stakeholders are very well involved in the proposed project and the planning thereof. The wish was expressed that the local municipality could involve stakeholders in the same manner when projects are planned.	Ndhuma Mkhari, Ward 13 Councillor for Greater Tzaneen Municipality.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007.	Noted.
r. That the public participation for the project should begin at Greater Tzaneen Municipality and that the municipality will take responsibility to consult traditional authorities. That municipalities of the Greater Tzaneen area should be informed of the process.	Maria Mmola, Ward Councillor, Greater Tzaneen Municipality, BID comment sheet and during a meeting with Nwamitwa Community Representatives at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007. Mr Hlamalani Khosa, Nwamitwa village resident and Councillor RR Selomo.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007. Attendance at the public meeting on 13 October 2007, Nwamitwa.	All municipalities in the Mopani District including the Greater Tzaneen Municipality are members of the Project Steering Committee, their officials and politicians have been invited through written and telephonic communication and a meeting has taken place at their offices between the project team, DWAF and their officials.
s. That transport for community members should be arranged to meetings.	Gandhi Moetlo, Department of Health and Social Development, Polokwane.	Attendance at meeting at Fairview River Lodge in Tzaneen on 31 July 2007.	Noted.
t. That stakeholders should nominate representatives to participate in a SWOT analysis to ensure that the need of the local people are taken into consideration and planned for.	Maria Hendricks, Blue Sands Trading, Tzaneen. Daniel Magalachana, Community Policing Forum, Nwamitwa.	Written submission (BID comment sheet). Written submission (DSR comment sheet).	Noted and efforts are being made to have local people participating in each step of the EIA process. Please see chapter 7 on the detailed activities of the public participation process of the EIA.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
u. That the stakeholders should include, but not be limited to, the BaKgaga BaMaupa communities and their families who were removed, relocated or resettled from the affected area by the previous white government.	Mr LL (Lekgola) Ramalepe, BaKgaga BaMaupa Communal Property Association.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Noted. Please refer to Annexure E1 of the Draft EIA Report for a list of registered stakeholders.
v. That participation of all relevant stakeholders be considered as the proposed dam will have an impact on biological species and human beings.	Mr MR (Marc-Anthony Ricardo) Williams, DWAF.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Public participation is an inclusive process – all stakeholders are invited to participate. Invitations to become involved have been distributed to stakeholders, advertisements and announcements have been made and site notice boards were put up to notify stakeholder along roads leading to the proposed development.
w. That landowners downstream and in the storage area be consulted as a matter of urgency.	Mr RJ (Roelf) du Plooy, Old Mutual, Phalaborwa.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Written communication has been distributed to all possibly directly affected landowners in the proposed dam basin area. All landowners have been invited to meetings which took place between 30 July and 1 August 2007 and on 12 and 13 October 2007. Telephonic contact has been made with all directly affected landowners. Consultation with the landowners on the properties have also taken place by members of the project team. Written notifications were sent to all parties on the proposed availability of the DEIR.
x. That all participants are informed in writing before any decisions are taken.	P (Peter) Faul, Landowner, Riverside.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Letaba Junction on 1 August 2007.	The EIA process allows in a regulatory context that interested and affected parties will have the opportunity at specific milestones to raise their views, recommendations, issues and concerns. Communication in writing will reach registered interested and affected parties at several occasions as the process unfolds. Please see chapter 7 on the detailed activities of the public participation process of the EIA.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
y. That it must be explained how people will be made aware of the project.	Participant	During a public meeting on 1 August 2007.	Several organisations, representatives, municipalities, provincial and national departmental offices in the project area were contacted to obtain contact details of stakeholders that they have contact with. These names were captured in a stakeholder database for this EIA process. Each person on the database (now standing at about 1 350 entries) have received an invitation letter, background information document and a comment sheet to invite them to become involved in the process. The comment sheet allowed for participants to add further names of friends or colleagues. Adverts and announcements were published and broadcast in the media to invite participants to become involved. Site notice boards were place for those using the main roads to the proposed new dam site. Meetings from 30 July to 1 August 2007 and again on 12 and 13 October 2007 were held in the project area to inform representatives of stakeholders. Several articles (Daily Sun, Letaba Herald, and Capricorn Voice) were published in newspapers due to the background information documents that were distributed also to the media. Written notifications were sent to all parties on the proposed availability of the DEIR.
z. That it is important to use the traditional structures when communicating with the people as the project will impact on their socio-economic values.	Percy Mhinga, Roads Agency Limpopo (RAL).	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Fairview Country Lodge, 31 July 2007, Tzaneen.	Traditional authorities are regarded, and are participating as a stakeholder in the EIA process. Please refer to Annexure E2 of the DEIR for a list of registered stakeholders.
aa. That it must be explained how the team will get permission to access farms (what measures are in place).	Moses Mahasha, In-Touch Community Development and Project Managers, Tzaneen.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Fairview Country Lodge, 31 July 2007, Tzaneen.	Team members have been issued with Certificates of Appointment reflecting their specific responsibilities, and which authorise access to land. Landowners must be kept informed at all times..
bb. That the Mozambican authorities and public are fully consulted in Portuguese and any other vernacular and that cognisance be taken of input from them and from SANParks.	Luke Perkins, Wildlife and Environment Society of SA (WESSA).	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Mozambique's sovereignty must be respected. The DWAF on a national level is consulting with the Mozambican authorities in terms of internationally recognised protocols.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
10. ISSUES RELATED TO LIVELIHOOD AND SOCIO-ECONOMICS			
a. That communities should be made aware of the proposed opportunities this project might have so that they can participate in the tendering for contracts when the proposed dam is constructed.	Neliekie Mukhombo, Mashishimale Community Development Trust.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Specific arrangements for directing work opportunities and contracts at affected communities are envisaged. Information on future possible contracts will be publicised in the official tender bulletins and in the media.
b. That landowners need to farm continuously to stay economically alive and to maintain the full capacity of for example their factories.	Johan and Horst Gubitz, Landowners and other directly affected landowners in the dam basin area.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Groot Letaba Water User Association offices, 31 July 2007 and meeting at Letaba Junction on 1 August 2007.	Noted. Will be taken into account in land acquisition process.
c. That the project should improve the livelihood of communities directly affected by the proposed construction of the dam – especially the previously disadvantaged.	Daniel Mathye, Thomas Mathebula, Stanley Baloyi, Samson Ngobeni (headman Valoyi Tribal Authority), Oris Mgobeni, Macson Hlahleni, Rhulani Casswell, residents Nwamitwa village.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007.	See response to 10 (a).
d. That the resettlement of people that might be directly affected by the diversion / alignment of roads, etc should be investigated.	Nghuyuzza Masilana, DWAF, Giyani Magapu Phineas Lekoana, Department of Local Government and Housing, Limpopo, Lebowa Kgomo.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	No relocation of communities is expected to be necessary as a result of this project. See the Social Specialist Study in Annexure C to the Draft EIA Report for more detail.
e. That people are now regarding the dam as being positive for the area after they were initially negative. However it is important for them to know in advance how they will be affected. They need to make the necessary arrangements in order for the farming activities not to suffer, e.g. they need to assess the impact on transport of workers as well as production.	Edward Vorster, Landowner.	Attended meeting at Letaba Junction on 1 August 2007.	Noted. See also responses in Sections 1 and 2 of this report. Also see details in Annexure C, the Social Specialist Study.
f. That the people's livelihoods be considered if they are relocated.	Foletji Mahlakoane, National Department of Agriculture.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Noted. Included in planning for land acquisition and relocation strategy.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
g. That farming with cattle takes place on the farm. Will the grazing fields be bought from us and if so may we hire it back? We will have to find new grazing for our cattle.	Johan and Horst Gubitz, Landowners.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Groot Letaba Water User Association offices, 31 July 2007 and meeting at Letaba Junction on 1 August 2007.	Land required for the project will be bought after a negotiation procedure with land owners.
h. That the following of the landowners will be inundated should the proposed dam be constructed: houses of landowners and farm workers, boreholes, surface dams, water distribution and irrigation networks, storage areas and warehouses, power lines, pump stations established garden and orchards.	Mr Edward Vorster, Mahela Boerdery, landowner. Mr Eddie Vorster, Mahela Boerdery, landowner.	Written submission (DSR comment sheet).	Noted. All losses will be compensated in the land acquisition process. See response to 5 (a).
i. That clarity must be provided whether loss of income for the time to re-establish new orchards will be considered.	Willie Muller, Landowner (Letaba Junction meeting).	Attended meeting at Letaba Junction on 1 August 2007 and the meeting held at the offices of the Groot Letaba Water User Association on 31 July 2007.	See response to 5 (a) and 5 (b).
11. OTHER ISSUES			
a. That the map being used is very old and that it does not give a true reflection of the area as it is today. The map should reflect the project area in provincial context, showing municipal boundaries, clearly indicating roads that are proposed for realignment.	P (Peter) Faul, Landowner, Riverside. Werner Booysen, Agri Limpopo.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Letaba Junction on 1 August 2007. Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Mopani District Municipality on 30 July 2007.	Noted. Noted and suggestions will be accommodated.
b. That clarity is needed on whether recreation on the new dam will be considered.	Unknown, Landowner.	Attendance at meeting at Letaba Junction on 1 August 2007.	Recreation is included in a Sustainable Utilization Plan for the dam to be prepared in the design phase of the project.
c. That Modjadji Dam should be considered as part of the project area, since the demand for water is so great.	Unknown participant.	Attendance at meeting at Mopani District Municipality on 30 July 2007.	Noted. Included in planning for bulk water supply infrastructure.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
d. That there might be a change in land use since a number of hectares of productive agricultural land will be under water if the proposed project goes ahead.	Willie Muller, Landowner.	Attended meeting at Letaba Junction on 1 August 2007 and the meeting held at the offices of the Groot Letaba Water User Association on 31 July 2007.	Some land that is currently being used for agricultural purposes (specifically irrigated citrus) will be inundated (change to a dam basin). Irrigated agriculture that is "lost" as a result of building the dam will be able to be replaced on other portions of land in the area as long as the water allocated for irrigation remains unchanged. This response should also be seen in context of the Land Acquisition Process and Compensation and Development Plan.
e. That proper tourist access to the proposed dam be planned properly.	Mr RJ (Roelf) du Plooy, Old Mutual, Phalaborwa.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Noted. Also see response to 11 (b).
f. That the utilisation of Letsitele and Nwanedzi Rivers be investigated.	Johannes Hendrik (Boela) Bruwer, Landowner Eureka LT 564 portion 14.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Runoff from both rivers is included in the hydrological analyses.
g. That access and control to the proposed dam regarding sport and recreational activities be considered.	Willie Fratter, Lepelle Northern Water, Haenertsburg.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attended meeting at Fairview Country Lodge, 31 July 2007, Tzaneen.	Noted. Also see response to 11 (b).
h. That equity in the project team should be addressed.	Rudzani Murovhi, Officer of the Premier, Polokwane.	Attendance at meeting at Mopani District Municipality on 30 July 2007 and at Fairview River Lodge in Tzaneen on 31 July 2007.	This objective is set in the services contract and is monitored on monthly basis.
i. That the project team should not lose sight of HIV/Aids as a possible impact in the process of proposed project implementation.	Gandhi Moetlo, Department of Health and Social Development, Polokwane.	Attendance at meeting at Fairview River Lodge in Tzaneen on 31 July 2007.	Noted. This will be investigated in the Health Specialist Study, Annexure K to the Draft EIA Report..
j. That the name, Nwamitwa Dam, is acceptable as a proposed name for the proposed dam. The naming of the dam should be a matter of careful consideration and that a neutral name should be chosen that does not offend any relevant party.	Andromica Sithole, Headman's wife, Nwamitwa village. Mr Lekgolo Ramalepe, BaKgaga BaMaupa Communal Property Association.	Written submission (DSR comment sheet) and attendance of the public meeting on 13 October 2007 in Nwamitwa. Attendance at a public meeting on 12 October 2007 at Tzaneen. Written submission, letter dated 12 January 2008.	The process of deciding on the name of a dam is still to be followed. The name <i>Nwamitwa Dam</i> is only a temporary name for working purposes that will/could be changed later after consultation with the relevant parties.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
k. Can DWAF fund youth in skills development projects?	Maria Mkhensani Mhlongo, Xihoko village.	Written submission (DSR comment sheet).	Skills development interventions associated with capital projects funded by DWAF can include the youth. DWAF has a Learning Academy and the youth can approach the Department to be included in the Learning programme.
l. There are rumours that more afforestation is planned for the area and that this is another reason for the proposed dam. It is a concern that Working for Water (WfW) is inactive in the region.	Mr Louis van Rooyen from the Letaba Water Users Association.	Attendance of a public meeting on 12 October 2007 in Tzaneen.	Increased commercial afforestation was not considered in determining the need for an additional storage dam. Although the water resources are overstressed, application for new water use licences, eg for afforestation, must be considered in terms of water resource management policy including the reallocation of resources and other interventions aimed at resource conservation and socio-economic upliftment of resource-poor sections of the population.
m. Other water management recommendations for the region should still be considered, even if the construction of the Nwamitwa Dam should go ahead.	Dr Thomas Gyedu-Ababio from South African National Parks (SANParks).	Written submission (DSR comment sheet) and attendance of the public meeting on 12 October 2007 in Tzaneen.	The infrastructure development is only one component of a larger project. Other non-infrastructure components that the Department is pursuing are discussed in Chapter 3.1 of the Scoping Report, and Chapter 3 of the Draft EIA Report.
n. Is it given that the dam will be built.	Several stakeholders.	Question raised at public meetings on 12 and 13 October 2007.	No decision has been taken yet about whether the dam would go ahead and it will depend on a number of factors, such as the social and economic benefits and the decision taken on the EIA.
o. Will the raising of the Tzaneen Dam only be possible if the Nwamitwa Dam was also built?	Werner Booysen, Agri Limpopo.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Mopani District Municipality on 30 July 2007.	The two activities are two separate issues and not mutually dependent on each other, however both activities are part of the same EIA application.
p. Will DWAF assist us to renew or to obtain the necessary permits/licences for surface water dams, since there is a possibility that our existing dams will be outdated?	Kallie Erasmus, Willie Mulder, Corrie Venter, landowners.	Telephonic conversation in response to the DRS.	Licences for new or replacement works for abstracting and using water will be considered by DWAF. Also see response to 2.1 (h).
q. Will DWAF assist landowners to obtain permits for bush clearing, since such permits will be required for the planting of new orchards?	Kallie Erasmus, Willie Mulder, Corrie Venter, landowners.	Telephonic conversation in response to the DRS.	Authority for bush clearing of areas required for replacement orchards will be required and DWAF can provide motivating information.

