

APPENDIX C: Issues and Response Report

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

Accompanying the Draft Scoping Report

This report presents all comments received by Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) during the Announcement Phase of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry's Groot Letaba River Water Development Project (GLeWaP) up to Friday 14 September 2007. It is presented as an Appendix to the Draft Scoping Report and its Summary Report.

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

Any additional issues raised up to Wednesday, 31 October 2007, the due date for comment on the Draft Scoping Report and its Summary, will be captured and presented in an Issues and Response Report that will accompany the Final Scoping Report.

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			
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.
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.
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	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	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
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.
“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.
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 above.
That it is important to build the proposed dam for economic development and to reduce poverty.	MR (Marc-Anthony Ricardo) Williams, DWAF	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Noted.
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.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
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.	Attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007.	This is a policy matter formulated for attention of DWAF.
(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.	One of the objectives of the proposed project is to reduce the risk of shortages of water – therefore to ensure improvement in water surety – response by Bob Pullen, BKS.
(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 2.1 (a)
(d) That equal distribution and allocation of water be considered when the proposed project is implemented.	Anna Mandlakazi, resident Nwamitwa village and Nghuyuzza 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 2.1 (a)
(e) That currently water is drawn from the Letaba River and from the Letaba South irrigation system channel via a servitude private pipeline – how will water rights be dealt with in terms of the proposed new development?	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 2.1 (a)
(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?	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 2.1 (a)

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
(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 2.1 (a)
(h) That clarity must be provided whether present water allocations will be affected.	Edward Vorster, Landowner.	Attended meeting at Letaba Junction on 1 August 2007.	The intension is that the right will remain. Previously water was attached to land, now it is per licence. DWAF's regional office is responsible to do a validation process on the water rights and licences – response provided by Bob Pullen, BKS
(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.	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.	A person has been appointed by DWAF that will tend to this matter - response provided by Sanet van Jaarsveld, DWAF See also 2.1 (a)
(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.	Each case will be decided on merit – response provided by Bob Pullen, BKS
(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.	This is all part of the planning of the dam. Negotiations will take place and assessments will be made on the effect of the new dam – response provided by Bob Pullen, BKS. See 2.1 (a)
(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 2.1 (a)
(m) 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 – response by Bob Pullen, BKS

2.2 Issues related to water supply and services

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.	Attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007.	Positive liaison has been set up with Water Services Authorities to address the matter.
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ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
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.	See 2.1 (a)
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.	Alignment being sought between provincial economic planning, municipal IDP's and the GLeWaP.
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.	Written submissions (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007.	Correct – in line with project objectives. Quantities to be confirmed in Technical Study Module.
That water should be provided to every household in the area.	Sophie Mongwe, resident of Mandlakazi village.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007.	Referred to municipal Water Service Development Planning authorities. GLeWaP proposes to improve bulk supplies.
That clarity must be provided on the terms '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.	That refers to water treatment works and pipelines to provide potable water for domestic use – response by Bob Pullen, BKS
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.
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 2.1 (a)
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).	Issue to be clarified in Technical Study Module (TSM).

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
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.	It is a joint responsibility. This project team is responsible for the planning of bulk water supplies to reservoirs and 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 – response by Bob Pullen, BKS
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.	Bulk supply planning included in Technical Study Module. Reticulation of domestic supplies is a municipal function.
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 a new waterworks.
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.
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. CA (Chantal) Matthys, DWAF: WA&IU (Environment & Recreation).	Written submission (BID comment sheet). Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Referred to Technical Study Module re system modelling and to DWAF Dir: Operations (North).
(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).	Referred to Dir : RDM and Dir : Operations (North) See also 2.3 (a)

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
That the ecological reserve and downstream users be considered.	Dr TK (Thomas) Gyedu-Ababio	Written submission (BID comment sheet)	See 2.3 (c)
That pollution of the water from the squatter 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 Issues related to water flow / quantity			
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	This will be addressed by the Technical Study Module in the hydrological system modelling in the Impact Assessment Phase of the project.
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 that regulates flow in the river system. It will maintain its functions as a weir in the operating system of the existing dam structures. The weir stores water when releases are made from Tzaneen Dam. When the weir is full, water is released into the Letaba River to flow to the Kruger National Park – response by Mr Ockie van den Berg and Mr Alson Matukane, DWAF.
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.	Noted. Referred to Technical Study Module and Environmental Management Module for evaluation and proposal.
(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)
(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)

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
(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.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Letaba Junction on 1 August 2007.	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 3 (a)
(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.
(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	Will be considered by the Technical Study Module in the EIA Phase of the project.
(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	Will be considered by the Technical Study Module in the EIA Phase of the project
(j) That it should be considered that the gravel road from Mandakhazi to Deepark be tarred.	Some of the landowners in the project area	Site visit by the Social Impact Assessment Team	Will be considered by the Technical Study Module in the EIA Phase of the project.
(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	Will be considered by the Technical Study Module in the EIA Phase of the project
(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	Will be considered by the Technical Study Module and Noise Specialist Study in the EIA Phase of the project.

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(m) That all encroachment on provincial road reserved 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
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.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007.	Referred to municipalities.
(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) That the project should be integrated into the various local municipal and provincial IDPs and Growth and Development Strategies.	Nghuyyuza Masilana, DWAF, Giyani. Willie Fratter, Lepelle Northern Water, Haenertsburg 2007. Duke Modjadji, Department of Finance and Economic Development, Polokwane.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Fairview Country Lodge, 31 July 2007, Tzaneen. Attendance at meeting at Mopani District Municipality on 30 July 2007	Noted.
5. ISSUES RELATED TO RELOCATION / LAND ACQUISITION			
(a) 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?	Lady Chief Nwamitwa, Member of Parliament. Mr Nkuna, Miss Mashele and Mr Ngobeni, Nkambako and Rwanda villages	Attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007. Site visit by the Social Impact Assessment Team	Referred to Technical Study Team to minimize impact and to Environmental Management Module for Environmental Management Plan (EMP).
(b) That concerns were expressed in terms of what will happen to ancestral graves in the project area should the graves have to be removed.	Mr and Mrs Nkuna, Rwanda village	Site visit by the Social Impact Assessment Team	The extent of the impact on graves will be determined in the Cultural Heritage Specialist Study in the EIA Phase of the project. 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.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
(c) 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.	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. Referred to DWAF Dir: Land Matters.
(d) That stakeholders living next to the dam should be relocated elsewhere to provide space for the construction of the dam.	TT Shisinga, Lunch Mswazi Maweni of Nkambako, Daniel Mathye – residents of Nwamitwa village and Khetane Amos Mongwe of the local Taxi Association.	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007.	Noted. Referred to Technical Study Module and Environmental Management Module to minimize negative social impacts.
(e) 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. That directly affected residents and local communities be properly compensated.	Samson Nwamitwa, resident Nwamitwa village. Isaac Makatu, DEAT (Mopani)	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007. Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Noted. Referred to Environmental Management Module for inclusion in EMP.
(f) 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.	Some landowners in the project area	Site visit by the Social Impact Assessment Team	Will be addressed in the EIA Phase of the project.
(g) 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	If land acquisition results in small portions of land that are economically unviable then the DWAF will, after negotiation, acquire and compensate the landowners for these sections of land in addition to the directly affected portions.
(h) 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	Noted. Will be considered in the EIA phase of the project.
(i) That a relocation action plan be considered.	F J (Felix) Smith, DWAF.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Noted. See 5 (c).

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
6. ISSUES RELATED TO THE ECOLOGY (AQUATIC SPECIES, VEGETATION) AND CONSERVATION			
That the movement of fish (the fish ladder) be considered.	Dr TK (Thomas) Gyedu-Ababio.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Referred to Environmental Management Module for investigation in the Impact Assessment Phase.
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.
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.	Daniel Mathye, Thomas Mathebula, Stanley Baloyi, Samson Ngobeni (headman Valoyi Tribal Authority), Oris Mgobeni, Macson Hlahleni – resident Nwamitwa village. MK (Mick) Angliss, Limpopo Dept Economic Dev, Env & Tourism Ms CA (Chantal) Matthys, DWAF: WA&IU (Environment & Recreation). Isaac Makatu, DEAT (Mopani)	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007. Written submission (BID comment sheet). Written submission (BID comment sheet). Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Noted. Referred to Environmental Management Module for investigation and inclusion in EMP. Resource planning and reservoir operation rules include implementation of the Reserve, aimed at maintaining riverine ecology.
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).	This will be considered in the ecological specialist studies in the Impact Assessment phase.
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).	This will be considered in the ecological specialist studies in the Impact Assessment phase.
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 will be considered in the ecological specialist studies in the Impact Assessment phase.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
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).	This is addressed in Chapter 8.9 in the Scoping Report.
That the riverine bush – recovery of wood should be considered.	JS (Johan) Barnard, Landowner.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Will be addressed in the Impact Assessment Phase of the study.
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).	Referred to the Environmental Management Module for inclusion in specialist studies in the Impact Assessment Phase.
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 of system modellers.
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.	The Environmental Management Plan will address all such aspects – response by Bob Pullen, BKS
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).	Matters affecting catchment management are referred to the DWAF Dir: Operations and the CMA
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).	This will be considered in the ecological specialist studies in the Impact Assessment phase.
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. Referred to DWAF. Dir : IEE for action
7. ISSUES RELATED TO THE PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF THE DAM			
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.	Natural floods cannot be managed. Downstream flooding during construction can only be lowered.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
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.
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	This will be considered in the EIA Phase of the project.
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	Will be considered in the Water Quality Specialist Study in the EIA Phase of the Project.
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	Will be considered by the Technical Study Module in the EIA Phase of the project.
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	Will be addressed in the Social Specialist Study in the Impact Assessment Phase of the project and captured in the EMP.
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.	The land around the dam is required early in the process for entry roads etc and the land for the dam basin only later. However the request is that the land will be obtained as early as possible in order for the farmers to re-establish themselves – response by Bob Pullen, BKS
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.
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.	All technical aspects will be known by end of 2007. The size of the dam will influence the cost, structure etc but the dam will be as small as possible with maximum benefit – response by Bob Pullen, BKS
8. ISSUES RELATED TO SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT			
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.	Will be included in EIA and EMP through a Relocation Action Plan if this is required.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
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 negatively affected by land requirements – response by Bob Pullen, BKS
8.1 Issues related to employment creation			
(a) That it is expected that the proposed project will create many job opportunities for local stakeholders.	Samson Ngobeni, Ndhuma Mkhari, Ward 13 Councillor of Greater Tzaneen Municipality. Stanley Baloyi, Rhutani Casswell Baloyi, David Mashadu Rapitsi, residents of Nwamitwa village.	Written submissions (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007.	Noted. Employment will be arranged through a labour desk with assistance of community representatives.
(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 EIA 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	Will be addressed in the Health Specialists Study in the Impact Assessment Phase of the project and captured in the EMP.
(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	Will be addressed in the Economic and Social Specialist Studies in the Impact Assessment Phase of the project.
(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).	Noted. Being addressed in a Specialist Study of heritage resources.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
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. Referred to Environmental Management Module and Socio-economic Module.
9. ISSUES RELATED TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT			
9.1 Issues related to the EIA process and specialist studies			
That sedimentation (likelihood of that in the dam and downstream) be investigated.	Mr Sean O'Beirne, EIA peer reviewer	Comments as part of a peer review of the Draft Scoping Report	Will be considered by the Technical Study Module in the Impact Assessment Phase of the project.
That slumping of 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	Will be considered in the conceptual design and detailed design of the dam.
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	Environmental Management Programmes for the proposed borrow areas will be submitted to DME as a part of the project.
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.
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)	This will be addressed in the Impact Assessment Phase of the project and included in the EMP.
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.
That the EIA investigations should reveal how many hectares of prime and unique agricultural land is going to be lost to people due to floods.	Foletji Mahlakoane, National Department of Agriculture, LUSM, Polokwane	Written submission (BID comment sheet)	See Chapter 9.2.5 in the Scoping Report.
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).

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
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 9.2.5 in the Scoping Report.
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.
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.	The information on the EIA will also be forwarded to the relevant provincial department. The provincial department is involved already. Since the proponent of the project is a National Department, its proposed plans are authorised by another National Department – response by Ockie van den Berg, DWAF
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).	This will be addressed in the EMPs.
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. Addressed in technical studies and EIA.
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 Chapters 9.2.3 for the heritage resources specialist studies. Dam safety issues will be addressed in the description of the project in the EIR.
The process (EIA) to be followed appears acceptable.	MK (Mick) Angliss, Limpopo Dept Economic Dev, Env & Tourism.	Written submission (BID comment sheet).	Noted.
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).	The health impact assessment (Chapter 9.2.5 in the Scoping Report) addresses these issues.
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.	Noted. For EIA and EMP.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
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.
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.
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. Referred to EIA for attention.
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 political impacts that projects might have – response by Ockie van den Berg, DWAF and Terry Baker, Iliso Consulting
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. Referred to Technical Study Module and EIA teams to ensure that siltation and economic aspects are fully accounted for.
9.2 Issues related to Public Participation			
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 will meet regularly to discuss strategic issues. The committee is represented by all spheres of government, relevant sectors and traditional authorities – response by Bob Pullen, BKS

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
That chiefs and the community should be addressed before the commencement of the project.	AE (Alingan Ephraim) Hlungwani, National African Farmers Union	Written submission (BID comment sheet)	This phase of the EIA has the objective to announce the project to all interested and affected parties. Announcements about the project and invitations to stakeholders to become involved have been widely distributed and advertised in the media – response by Public Participation office
That a bottom-up consultation strategy should be used, prioritising grassroots communities.	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.	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 – response by the Public Participation office
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 your concerns and input – response by Bob Pullen, BKS
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 – response by the Public Participation office
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 that will be allowed for comments will be 30 days – response by Terry Baker, Illiso Consulting

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
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.	<p>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.</p> <p>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. All meetings are open to all stakeholders – response by the Public Participation office</p>
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 – response by the Public Participation office
That chiefs and traditional leaders should become involved in the process and receive written invitations to participate.	<p>Themba Ebby Mboweni, Spero Properties, Tzaneen</p> <p>Neliekie Mukhombo, Mashishimale Community Development Trust</p>	<p>Written submission (BID comment sheet).</p> <p>Written submission (BID comment sheet).</p>	Written invitations have been distributed to Chiefs – response by the Public Participation office
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
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

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
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 – response by Public Participation office
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 will be taking place throughout the project's duration to facilitate common understanding – response by the Public Participation office
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.
That the public participation for the project should begin at Greater Tzaneen Municipality and that the municipality will take responsibility to consult traditional authorities	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	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Nwamitwa Tribal office, 1 August 2007.	Greater Tzaneen Municipality is a member 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 – response by the Public Participation office
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.
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	Written submission (BID comment sheet)	Noted and efforts are being made to have local people participating in each step of the EIA process – response by the Public Participation office

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
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
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.
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. Telephonic contact has been made with most directly affected landowners. Consultation with the landowners on the properties have also taken place by members of the project team – response Public Participation office
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.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
That it must be explained how people will be made aware of the project.			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 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.
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 – response by Public Participation office
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.	Letters to request access to the farms will be provided to those team members who need it signed by the Minister of Water Affairs and Forestry – response by Ockie van den Berg, DWAF
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)	The DWAF on a national level is consulting with the Mozambican authorities in terms of internationally recognised protocols – response by Public Participation office

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
10. ISSUES RELATED TO LIVELIHOOD AND SOCIO-ECONOMICS			
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).	Information on future possible contracts will be publicised in the media.
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.
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.	Specific arrangements for directing work opportunities and contracts at affected communities are envisaged.
That the resettlement of people that might be directly affected by the diversion / alignment of roads, etc should be investigated.	Nghuyuzo Masilana, DWAF, Giyani Magapu Phineas Lekoana, Department of Local Government and Housing, Limpopo, Lebowakgomo	Written submission (BID comment sheet)	The Social Impact Assessment and planning for relocation of people and activities is directed at this issue.
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.
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.
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 actually required for the project will be bought after a negotiation procedure with land owners.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
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.	A model was developed for a previous project and there they made provision for loss of production – response by Bob Pullen, BKS.
11. OTHER ISSUES			
That the map being used is very old and that it does not give a true reflection of the area as it is today.	P (Peter) Faul, Landowner, Riverside	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Letaba Junction on 1 August 2007.	Noted
The map should reflect the project area in provincial context, showing municipal boundaries, clearly indicating roads that are proposed for realignment.	Werner Booysen, Agri Limpopo	Written submission (BID comment sheet) and attendance at meeting at Mopani District Municipality on 30 July 2007.	Noted and actioned.
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 utilization plan for the dam to be prepared in the design phase.
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.
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.	The DWAF and the Limpopo Department of Agriculture meet often to discuss mutual issues. A meeting where the parties would meet will be taking place at the end of August 2007 and Mr Alson Matukane, Chief Director Limpopo Region will ensure that the matter is discussed at the meeting – response by Mr Matukane, DWAF
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.
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.
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.

ISSUE	RAISED BY	SOURCE	RESPONSE
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.
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