



water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

ENQUIRIES JA Bester
☎ 012-336-8500
REFERENCE 14/2/T500/9/2

27 February 2014

Attention: Senior Official

Dear Sir,

**uMkhomazi Water Project Phase 1
Invitation to a Senior Officials Meeting and Site Visit**

Phase 1 of the uMkhomazi Water Project (uMWP) is currently being undertaken conjunctively by the Department of Water Affairs (DWA) and Umgeni Water. It involves a feasibility study for the transfer of water from the undeveloped uMkhomazi River to the existing Mgeni system to further augment water supply to the Durban, Pietermaritzburg and surrounding areas. The uMWP comprises the following infrastructure:

- A new dam on the uMkhomazi River at Smithfield near Richmond.
- Water conveyance infrastructure, viz. a tunnel(s) to Langa Balancing Dam.
- A water treatment works in the uMlaza River valley.
- A gravity pipeline to the Umgeni Water bulk distribution reservoir system, below the reservoir at Umlaas Road.

The Department of Water Affairs would like to invite you to the **Senior Officials Meeting and Site Visit** for the **uMkhomazi Water Project Phase 1**, which will be held as follows:

Area	Day and Date	Venue	Activity	Time
Boston, KwaZulu- Natal	Tuesday, 18 March 2014	Calderwood Hall Guest House, Boston Road (R617)	Session 1: Information Sharing Session	09h00 – 11h00
			Session 2: Site Visit	12h00 – 16h00

The purpose of the Senior Officials Information Sharing Session is to provide detailed information to relevant municipalities and key water users who will ultimately be the beneficiaries of the uMWP. Furthermore, decision makers from various spheres of

government will have the opportunity to engage with relevant stakeholders at this Senior Officials Meeting.

The Information Sharing Session will be followed by a site visit to all places of importance on the uMkhomazi Water Project. The objective of the site visit will be to present current progress on the project to key stakeholders (including officials from DWA, the KZN Premier's Office, directly-affected District and Local Municipalities or Water Service Authorities, and Umgeni Water) against the backdrop of the actual surroundings where the project is proposed to be implemented.

Senior Officials (including the Chief Financial Officer and Municipal/Technical Manager) from the following organisations have been invited:

- Department of Water Affairs – National Office.
- Department of Water Affairs – KZN Regional Office.
- KwaZulu-Natal Office of the Premier.
- Umgeni Water.
- eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality.
- Ugu District Municipality.
- Sisonke District Municipality.
- Ilembe District Municipality.
- Umgungundlovu District Municipality.
- Msunduzi Local Municipality.

Your participation at this forthcoming Senior Officials Meeting is very important and your attendance will ensure that the perspective of your water users is given adequate consideration. Therefore, I would like to encourage your participation in dealing with these important uMWP strategic matters and receiving contributions from all role players.

To facilitate logistical arrangements, please respond by **Tuesday, 04 March 2014 to Bongji Shinga Email: bongji.shinga@acerafrica.co.za, Tel: 035-3402715**

It is important that all key water users and decision makers as listed above are represented at this Senior Officials Information Sharing Session.

Yours sincerely,

Mr T Balzer
DIRECTOR-GENERAL
Letter signed by: Mr LS Mabuda
Designation: Deputy Director General: Planning & Information (Acting)

Date: