

# APPENDIX N

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## MINUTES OF MEETING – TREWIRGIE FARM

	<b>DRAFT MINUTES</b> <b>Meeting – Trewirgie Farm</b>	<b>Queries:</b> Donavan Henning ☎ 011 781 1730 ✉ 011 781 1731 ✉ donavanh@nemai.co.za
<b>Client Details:</b>	 water & sanitation Department: Water and Sanitation REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA	<b>Project Name:</b> uMkhomazi Water Project Phase 1
<b>Date:</b>	18 August 2016	<b>Time:</b> 14h00 – 16h00
<b>Facilitator:</b>	D Henning	<b>Venue:</b> Trewirgie Farm, KZN

*Note: These minutes are not intended as a verbatim transcript of the meeting, but rather as a summary of the salient discussions which took place.*

### Attendance

Refer to the completed Attendance Register contained in Appendix A.

Item.	Description	Action	Target Date
<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome &amp; Purpose of Meeting</b>		
1.1	The meeting commenced at approximately 14h00. All parties present introduced themselves.  The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the concerns raised by representatives of Trewirgie Farm with regards to the proposed uMkhomazi Water Project Phase 1 (uMWP-1).  B Seele asked whether there were any objections to the meeting being recorded. No objections were stated.	-	-
<b>2.</b>	<b>Discussion</b>		
2.1	C Seele provided background to Trewirgie Farm. He stated that the farm was registered as a Natural Heritage Site and he emphasised their commitment to ensuring the conservation of the natural environment of Trewirgie.	-	-
2.2	D Henning provided an overview of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process conducted to date (focussing on the uMWP-1 Raw Water component), which included the following key milestones: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applying to the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA), as the competent authority, in terms of the EIA Regulations of 2010;</li> <li>• Initial notification and registration of Interested and Affected Parties (I&amp;APs) as part of the Project Announcement Phase;</li> <li>• Compilation of the draft Scoping Report and the subsequent public review period;</li> <li>• Compilation of the final Scoping Report and the subsequent public review period;</li> <li>• Submission of the final Scoping Report to DEA;</li> <li>• DEA's approval of the final Scoping Report; and</li> <li>• Compilation of the draft EIA Report and the subsequent public review period.</li> </ul> <p>D Henning indicated that all comments received on the draft EIA Report will be included in the updated Comments and Responses Report, which will be appended to the final EIA Report. As the project was applied for under the previous EIA Regulations of 2010, the final EIA Report will also be lodged in the public domain for review.</p>	-	-

Item.	Description	Action	Target Date
	Thereafter the final EIA Report will be submitted to DEA for review and decision-making. All I&APs will be notified of the decision and appeal process.		
2.3	<p>L Seele asked how the comments received from I&amp;APs have been attended to as part of the EIA.</p> <p>D Henning explained that the primary results of the comments received included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The identification and investigation of new project alternatives, where relevant;</li> <li>• The identification of new specialist studies and expansion of the scope of existing specialist studies, where relevant; and</li> <li>• All comments were responded to by the relevant members of the project team.</li> </ul>	-	-
2.4	<p>C Seele summarised their primary concerns with regards to the proposed uMWP-1 as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The draft EIA Report does not adequately address both short-term and long-term impacts of the project on fauna and flora on Trewirgie Farm. He drew specific attention to the risks posed to Blue Swallows;</li> <li>• Impacts of the tunnel's servitude on Trewirgie Farm; and</li> <li>• Impacts to groundwater on Trewirgie Farm.</li> </ul>	-	-
2.5	<p>B Seele read her comments with regards to the impacts of the proposed uMWP-1 on Blue Swallows and other fauna and flora, with specific reference to Trewirgie Farm. The comments, together with a letter from Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife pertaining to the qualification of Trewirgie Farm for the Nature Reserve category, were provided to Nemai Consulting during the meeting and are attached as Appendix B.</p> <p>D Henning indicated that these comments would be included and responded to in the updated Comments and Responses Report, which would be appended to the final EIA Report. Only certain of these comments were discussed further during the meeting, which included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• D Henning explained that R Phamphe is a Professional Natural Scientist registered with the South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions, and therefore it is not necessary to have his reports reviewed by an external ecologist. D Henning noted that he reviewed the Terrestrial Ecological Impact Assessment compiled by R Phamphe as part of the internal quality management system within Nemai Consulting.</li> <li>• D Henning and K Bester explained why Option B of the tunnel alignment had been discarded, which related to the elimination of the Baynesfield Dam as a possible balancing dam. B Seele asked if the tunnel route could follow the alignment of Option B and then turn south-eastwards to reach the current termination point. Technical feedback to be provided.</li> <li>• B Seele indicated that two Blue Swallow nesting sites had been confirmed on Trewirgie Farm (shown on map), in close proximity to the tunnel route.</li> <li>• D Henning indicated that the mitigation measures proposed as part of the EIA to manage impacts to Blue Swallows included the following (amongst others): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Establish Blue Swallows Working Group, which will include the relevant environmental authorities, conservation groups, landowners and members of the project team;</li> <li>○ Conduct a thorough avifaunal walk through of all project</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	DWS, Nemai	<i>To be confirmed</i>

Item.	Description	Action	Target Date
	<p>components prior to construction, to identify any areas of particularly high sensitivity and requiring management during construction;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Implement a noise and vibration monitoring programme, where baseline values will be determined prior to construction. Establish noise and vibration limits for Blue Swallows;</li> <li>○ K Bester enquired about the current approach to cutting trees in the forestry plantation on the farm. C Seele stated that the felling of trees does not affect the Blue Swallows.</li> <li>○ Attempt to avoid construction in sensitive areas during the breeding season of Blue Swallows, based on findings of baseline avifaunal as well as noise and vibration monitoring. K Bester commented that it would very difficult to stop drilling or if it is stopped it will be extremely costly (therefore not feasible).</li> </ul> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● C Seele summarised B Seele's comments by saying that severity of the Blue Swallow impact was not adequately reflected in the draft EIA report. D Henning responded by saying he would be happy to emphasise the potential Blue Swallow impact in greater detail.</li> </ul>		
2.6	<p>C Seele expressed concern over the servitude restrictions with regards to the tunnel and stated that it would not be acceptable if the land was acquired.</p> <p>D Henning indicated that the section in the EIA Report that discusses the tunnel servitude needed to be elaborated on.</p>	DWS, Nemai	31-08-16
2.7	<p>K Bester discussed the tunnelling method and the lining of the tunnel, based on geological conditions. He further noted that additional geotechnical investigations needed to be undertaken as part of the project's design phase, which would include drilling of additional boreholes. M Seele asked whether an additional EIA would be needed for this drilling. D Henning responded that the EMP in the absence of an EIA becomes the document that speaks to managing sensitive areas. D Henning stated that he would be happy to write it in and draw more attention to it in the EIR.</p> <p>B Seele indicated that no boreholes should be drilled in sensitive areas in terms of Blue Swallows.</p> <p>C Seele stated that groundwater yield should be tested prior to construction and he also noted that now would be a good time to conduct testing due to the drought. D Henning indicated that this will be included in the Environmental Management Programme as part of baseline monitoring.</p> <p>L Seele commented that they wanted their concerns regarding groundwater impacts to be noted. K Bester responded that as part of mitigation measures boreholes/springs will be tested to check yields and quantity. D Henning confirmed this. C Seele indicated that they would get an independent party to conduct this testing.</p>	DWS, Nemai	31-08-16
2.8	<p>L Seele enquired about water that is unaccounted for in the eThekweni Municipality, as well as the volume of water to be transferred from the uMkhomazi River.</p> <p>K Bester explained water losses experienced in this area. He indicated that uMWP-1 will provide approximately 200 million m<sup>3</sup> to the Integrated Mgeni Water Supply System.</p>	-	-

Item.	Description	Action	Target Date
	D Henning indicated that the EIA Report includes a section on screened options that were considered to increase the water resource (apart from a transfer scheme), which includes desalination, use of treated effluent, etc.		
<b>3.</b>	<b>CLOSURE &amp; WAY FORWARD</b>		
3.1	<p>In closing C Seele stated that at the moment with the issues that were raised during the meeting the Seele family oppose the project.</p> <p>The meeting was concluded at approximately 15h30.</p> <p>The comments made during the meeting will be included in the updated Comments and Responses Report, which will be appended to the final EIA Report.</p>	-	-




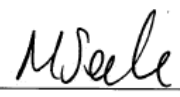
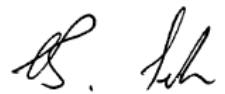
## APPENDIX A

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### COMPLETED ATTENDANCE REGISTER

<b>Meeting – Trewirgie Farm</b>		<b>Queries:</b>	Donavan Henning (M): 082 891 0604 (T): 011 781 1730 (E): donavanh@nema.co.za
<b>Client Name &amp; Project Number:</b>	Department of Water and Sanitation (10492)	<b>Date:</b>	18 August 2016
		<b>Time:</b>	14h00 – 16h00
<b>Project Name:</b>	uMkhomazi Water Project Phase 1	<b>Venue:</b>	Trewirgie Farm, KZN

## ATTENDANCE REGISTER

Name	Affiliation	Contact Details	Signature
Kobus Bester	DWS	T 012 336 8071 C 084 517 5560 E besterk@dwa.gov.za	
Donavan Henning	Nemai Consulting	T 011 781 1730 C 082 891 0604 E donavanh@nema.co.za	
Carl Seele	Trewirgie Farm	T 033 2510311 C 082 802 8948 E seelecarl@telkomsa.net	
Liza Seele	Trewirgie farm	T 0332 510 138 C 084 5087614 E lizaseele@gmail.com	
Barbara Seele	Landowner; Dunbar estate	T 0829518415 C E barbaraseele@gmail.com	
Maria Seele	Landowner, Drie fontein	T C 072 084 0973 E mariaseele@gmail.com	
BEN SEELE	Trewirgie Farm	T 033-251031 C 082 352 4394 E seeleband@telkomsa.net	

## APPENDIX B

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WRITTEN COMMENTS FROM B SEELE (*IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED UMKHOMAZI WATER PROJECT ON BLUE SWALLOWS, AND OTHER FAUNA AND FLORA (SPECIFICALLY ON TREWIRGIE FARM)*)

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LETTER FROM EZEMVELO KZN WILDLIFE PERTAINING TO THE QUALIFICATION OF TREWIRGIE FARM FOR THE NATURE RESERVE CATEGORY