

DEPARTMENT: WATER AFFAIRS CHIEF DIRECTORATE: RESOURCE DIRECTED MEASURES

DIRECTORATE: WATER RESOURCE CLASSIFICATION

THE CLASSIFICATION OF SIGNIFICANT WATER RESOURCES IN THE OLIFANTS-DOORN WATER MANAGEMENT AREA (WMA 17)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION REPORT APRIL 2012

This report should be read in conjunction with the final project report:

1200

Department of Water Affairs, South Africa, May 2011. Final project report for the classification of Water resources in the Olifants-Doorn WMA, Belcher A, and Grobler D, April 2012.

Prepared for: Prepared by:

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1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

It is a legal requirement to ensure public and stakeholder participation during the process of water resource classification. The Olifants Doorn WMA is the first area in which water resources are being classified in South Africa. The Department of Water Affairs (DWA) appointed Blue Science Consulting cc to undertake the technical study to determine the classes for the water resources in the Olifants Doorn WMA. Nosipho Consultancy cc was appointed as subcontractors to guide, facilitate and undertake the public and stakeholder participation process.

2. MOBILISATION OF STAKEHOLDERS

2.1 National awareness

The Department of Water Affairs has placed advertisements in National newspapers to inform members of the public and water stakeholders of the start of the classification of water resources in South Africa. These advertisements appeared in the following National newspapers:

- Sunday Times, and
- Mail and Guardian

2.2 Regional awareness

Three newspapers which are distributed in the Olifants Doorn Water Management study area were selected and notices in Afrikaans, English and isiXhosa were published in the newspapers listed in table 1. It included the following:

- Olifants Gazette,
- Ons Kontrei, and
- Noordwester.

The notices announced the first public meeting, the purpose thereof and the stakeholders was requested to indicate their interest by registering on the database. Appendix A provides copies of the advertisements.

2.3 Stakeholder database

Various existing databases (Water User Associations, CMA reference group) was consulted in the in the area to ensure inclusivity of all sectors, stakeholders and affected parties. The database that was used consisted of more than 350 stakeholder members and was used to notify and invite people to participate and a record of participation during the process was kept. The database was updated continuously during the study period and after each of the public meetings. The final database consist of various sectors which include the following: Local Government, National and Provincial Government Departments, Water User Associations, Nature Conservation and Environment, Water Catchment Forums, Community organisations, Emerging Farmer (individuals and forums), Commercial Farmers (individual and farmer unions), Labour Unions, Private Consultants and individuals, Universities, Olifants River Estuary,

Management Forum, Verlorenvlei Estuary Management Forum, Tourism and Recreation and Department of Water Affairs (National and Provincial).

Table 1: List of regional and local news papers in which notices were published before the onset of the classification process

NAME	COVERAGE AREA	CONTACT DETAILS
Olifants Gazette	Lamberts Bay, Doring Bay,	Tel:027- 2135400
	Clanwilliam, Citrusdal, Elands	Fax: 0865098134
	Bay, Van Rhynsdorp,	e-mail: anna-
	Vredendal, Lutzville,	marie.dykers@media24.com
	Koekenaap, Ebernaheaser,	Deadline adverts: Fridays@4
	Strandfontein, Papendorp,	Published every Wednesday
	Bitterfontien	
Ons Kontrei	Loeriesfontein, Calvinia,	Tel: 027- 2132074
	Neuwoudtville, Graafwater,	e-mail: info@onskontrei.co.za
	Lamberts Bay, Doring Bay,	Deadline for adverts: Tuesday @ 14:00
	Clanwillliam, Citrusdal, Elands	Published: every Thursday
	Bay, Van Rhynsdorp,	
	Vredendal, Lutzville,	
	Koekenaap, Ebernaheaser,	
	Strandfontein, Papendorp	
Noordwester	Northern Cape; Calvinia; Karoo;	Contact Person: Joelene Kock
		Tel: 027 341 1026 / 1686
		Fax: 027 341 1686
		Email: noordwester@hantam.co.za
		Published every Thursday
		Deadline for Adverts to be placed:
		Tuesday at 12h00.

2.4 Public Participation Meetings

2.4.1 Communication and invitations to the meetings

With the inception of the study a classification background document and brochures were developed for the water stakeholders and made available in the three official languages of the Western Cape Province: English, Afrikaans and isiXhosa. Various mediums was utilised to communicate with the stakeholders: e-mails, fax, telephone in preparation of each Public Participation meeting and also during the study period. Stakeholders could also access documents from the website: www.ewisa.co.za and the website of the Department of Water Affairs www.dwa.gov.za. The classification guideline documents, according to which classification is to be conducted, was also made available to stakeholders.

All three public meetings were held in Clanwilliam at the Rolbal Klub. At each of the meetings comment sheets were made available for the stakeholders that wanted to provide their comments and concerns in written form. Minutes were kept of each of the public meeting. A comments and responses register was also compiled and updated

after each public meeting which resulted in a consolidated comment and responses register which was distributed at the second and third public participation meetings to allow stakeholders to scrutinize.

2.4.2 Language Accessibility

All the public meetings were conducted in both Afrikaans and English and as with most of the documents, stakeholders were also encouraged and invited to speak in their mother tongue during the Public Participation meetings, as there was translation services available.

2.4.3 Nature of Public Participation Meetings

The first and second public meetings were done in a workshop format to allow maximum participation by the stakeholders. Presentations were also done in two languages simultaneously (two screens) for the benefit of the stakeholders. The agenda of each meeting was also set in such manner to allow maximum time for questions, clarity and to raise any other concerns.

Table 2 provides a summary of the specific topics that were covered in each of the three public meetings.

Table 2: Summary of the focus of each of the public meetings

Dates of meetings	Purpose
14 June 2011	 Introduce the study to the stakeholders, process, study team and DWA Project team. Background to the water resource classification system and process. Legal and regulatory mandate and technical overview. Process for the classification of water resources in the Olifants/Doorn WMA: Groundwater, Surface water and ecology, economic and social considerations.
6 October 2011	 Provide feedback as to the status of the study with the focus on groundwater, surface water and ecology, and Presentation of possible scenarios
14 February 2012	 Presentation of the refined classification scenarios, and Way forward in terms of the process to gazette the class configuration and opportunity of public to make comment during the gazetting period.

Table 3 provides a summary of the comments received and the attendance of the public meetings. Appendix B provides a summary of the comments and responses register sorted to topic and stakeholder who made comments or required answers to questions. More than 150 comments and questions to which responses were supplied are captured in the register.

For each of the Public Participation meetings a set of minutes, agenda and invitations and a sheet of comments and concerns are available. All these documents were distributed at least 14 days prior to each Public Participation meeting.

Table 3: Summary of the number of participants in the public meetings and the number of comments and responses provided during the classification process

Meeting	Date	Number of comments received and responses provided	Number of attendees
PSC 1	17-May-11	10	29
Public meeting 1	14-Jun-11	51	69
PSC 2	06-Sep-11	16	23
Public meeting 2	06-Oct-11	21	60
PSC 3	24-Jan-12	24	19
Public meeting 3	14-Feb-12	21	52
Written comments received	Various	8	
	Total	151	

2.4.4 Technical meetings with WUA

In addition to the three formal public and stakeholder consultation meetings the study team members also engaged during four meetings with representatives of the following Water User Association:

- Koue Bokkeveld,
- Citrusdal,
- LORWUA, and
- Sandveld

The purpose of these meetings was to obtain input into the agricultural economic modeling in order to determine the impact of either an increase or decrease in the availability of water on agricultural activities.

2.5 Challenges experience during the stakeholder participation process

- The Olifants/ Doorn Water Management area is very vast and stakeholders have to travel a radius of 400 kilometers to attend the public participation meetings in Clanwilliam. A budget was used to cover he travel costs of stakeholders groups that needed to travel long distances to attend the public meetings.
- Stakeholder fatigue, anger and frustrations: it was very evident during the stakeholder processes that there are many unresolved issues in the Olifants Doorn Water Management Area, and stakeholders then use this opportunity to express their concerns related to the unresolved issues such as the raising of the Clanwilliam Dam, Non existence of Catchment Management Agency and lack of support to Emerging Farmers.

APPENDIX A: ADVERTISEMENTS PLACED IN THREE LOCAL NEWSPAPERS IN THE STUDY AREA



WATER AFFAIRS

Department: Water Affairs REPUBLIC OF SOUTHAFRICA

INKQUBO YOKUTHATHA INXAXHEBA KOLUNTU

Ukuhlelwa kweMithombo yaManzi kwiNgingqi yoLawulo lwaManzi e-Olifants/eDoorn

ISebe lemiCimbi yaManzi lakhe uphando lokuhlela imithombo yamanzi ebalulekiyo kwiNgingqi yoLawulo lwaManzi e-Olifants/eDooms, ngenjongo yokwenza kube lula ulungelelwano olufanekileyo phakathi kokusetyenziswa kwemithombo yamanzi nokukhuselwa kwayo.

Intlanganiso yoLuntu iya kubanjwa ukusuka ngeye-10:00 – kweyo-13:00 ngoLwesibini wama-14 kuJune wama-2011 kwiClanwilliam Bowling Club, eClanwilliam. Bonke abanomdla kunye/okanye amaqela achaphazelekileyo amkelekile ukuba azimase intlanganiso.

Nceda uqhagamshelane noMququzeleli woLuntu, uKszn Doreen Februarie, Ifowuni: 021–903 5911, iFeksi: 0219038376 okanye i-imeyile: admin@nosipho.co.za

okanye

Umncedisi Mphathi: Kwicandelo Lokhuseleko Lwamanzi (ISebe lemiCimbi yaManzi, Nginjqi yeNtshona Koloni), uKszn Thembela Bushula, Ifowuni: 021 950 7105, or okanye i-imeyile: BushulaT@dwa.gov.za ukufumana iinkcukacha ezithe vetshe.



WATER AFFAIRS

Department
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTHAFRICA

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

Classification of Water Resources in the Olifants/Doorn Water Management Area

The Department of Water Affairs has commissioned a study to classify significant water resources in the Olifants/Doorn Water Manangement Area, with the purpose to facilitate an appropriate balance between use of the water resource and the protection thereof.

A Public meeting will be held from 10:00- 13:00 on Tuesday 14 June 2011 at the Clanwilliam Bowling Club, Clanwilliam. All interested and/or affected parties are welcome to attend the meeting.

Please contact the Public Facilitator, Ms Doreen Februarie, Tel: 021-903 5911, Fax: 0219038376 or e-mail: admin@nosipho.co.za

or

Deputy Director: Water Resource Protection (DWA, Western Cape Region), Ms Wilna Kloppers, Tel: 021-950 7141, or e-mail: Kloppers W@dwa.gov.za for further enquiries.



PUBLIEKE DEELNAME PROSES

Klassifikasie van Waterhulpbronne in die Olifants/Doorn Waterbestuursgebied

Die Departement van Waterwese het 'n studie geloods om alle belangrike waterbronne in die Olifants/Doorn opvanggebied te klassifiseer met die doel om 'n balans daar te stel tussen die benutting en die beskerming van die waterbronne.

'n Openbare vergadering sal **op Dinsdag 14 Junie 2011** van **10:00 -13:00** in die saal van **Clanwilliam Rolbalklub** gehou word. Alle belanghebbende en / of geaffekteerde partye word uitgenooi om die vergadering by te woon.

Tree asb in verbinding met die Openbare Fasiliteerder, Me Doreen Februarie by Tel: (021) 903 5911: Faks: 0219038376 of e-pos admin@nosipho.co.za

of

Bestuurder: Waterbronbeskerming (DWA: Wes-Kaap Streek), Me Wilna Kloppers by Tel: (021) 950 7141 of e-pos Kloppers W@dwa.gov.za vir enige verdere navrae