

## Wilge Forum Meeting



**water affairs**

Department:  
Water Affairs  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

**Date: 15 November 2011.**

**Time: 10:00**

**Venue: Reitz (Nketoana Municipal Office)**

No	DISCUSSION	Action
1.	<b>Welcome</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The Chairperson welcomed all attendees.</li></ul>	NP Cindi
2.	<b>Introduction of attendees.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>All attendees introduced themselves.</li></ul>	
3.	<b>Apologies</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>E. Matseba</li><li>T. Nyamande</li><li>B. Govendor</li><li>B. Bele</li><li>T. Mofokeng</li></ul>	
4.	<b>Minutes of Previous Meeting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Corrections were made and circulated to the members.</li></ul>	
5.	<b>Acceptance of the Minutes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The minutes were accepted as a true reflection of the previous meeting.</li></ul>	
6.	<b>Matters Arising from the Previous minutes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>T Pather mentioned that he will not be able to give a presentation on the impact of the land fill site near Bethlehem because the Department of Environmental Affairs did not forward the presentation.</li><li>R Shibambo requested T Pather to give the presentation on the land fill site that he is responsible for.</li><li>R Hararim indicated that he will give a presentation of Orange - Vaal yellow fish at the next meeting.</li></ul>	R Hariram
7.	<b>Additions to the Agenda</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The agenda was approved with the following addition Save Vaal Dam.</li></ul>	

8. 8.1	<p><b>Items for Presentation</b></p> <p><b>Save the Vaal Dam</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I Main gave a presentation of Save the Vaal Dam and encouraged the forum to work to together in order to save Vaal dam.</li> <li>• NP Cindi requested stakeholders to report pollution incident to the relevant affected parties. (Normally the Municipality and Department of Water Affairs).</li> </ul>	All
9. 9.1	<p><b>Water Quality Status of the Wilge River Catchment.</b></p> <p><b>DWA</b></p> <p>DWA presented the water quality status of Wilge catchment with reference to the</p>	R Shibambo
	<p>problematic areas. Most of the sewage works are not complying with variables such as faecal coliform, E-coli, Ammonia and Nitrates. Bethlehem, Harrismith, Tshiamé and Qwa Qwa works indicated high E.coli. DWA indicated that there are high E-coli and Faecal Coli form counts in streams in Wilge catchment, especially in the Elands river below Qwa Qwa and Wilge River below Harrismith. It was indicated that General Standards are used at the sewage works while In -Stream Water Quality guidelines are used for points that are on the streams.</p>	
9.2	<p><b>Rand Water</b></p> <p>R. Hariram presented water quality status for Rand Water. He also mentioned that the results are available on the reservoir website. ( www.reservoir.co.za)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After the presentation stakeholders requested why Rand Water and DWA results are different.</li> <li>• It was requested that the Waste Water Treatment Works (WWTW)'s laboratory was suppose to be credited and the standards should be the same.</li> <li>• R Shibambo said it will be verified; however if the results are not accredited, it will not be used for legal matters.</li> <li>• Stakeholders requested DWA and Rand Water to take samples same day.</li> <li>• NP Cindi mentioned that DWA and Rand Water are different institution, it will be difficult for them to take samples the same day, further suggested that the forum must wait for R Shibambo to verify if DWA results were correct.</li> </ul>	R Shibambo
9.3	<p><b>Pollution Incidents</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• R Shibambo requested Municipalities and stakeholders to report pollution incident to the DWA.</li> <li>• Tshiamé- the plant was not fully operational; the operation was then ceased on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September 2011 for installation purposes. The plant will recommence operating on the 07<sup>th</sup> of October 2011.</li> </ul>	
9.4	<p><b>Feedback on waste disposal sites.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reitz WDF – application for the new landfill had been submitted awaiting approval from DETEA.</li> <li>• Warden WDF – application for the new landfill had been approved, in late December 2011. This site to be commissioned as soon as possible.</li> </ul>	
9.5	<p><b>Feedback on Classification Studies</b></p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The project is at step four and has three reports available on the reservoir website. The next step to follow will be step 5, which is to evaluate the scenario within the Integrated Water Resource Management Process, and step six which is to evaluate the scenario with stakeholders. The last step will be to gazette and implement the class confederation.</li> <li>• Regarding the stakeholders participation, they will be having PMC meeting scheduled monthly. On the 10<sup>th</sup> November there was a Project Steering Committee and the third one will be held in May 2012.</li> </ul>	
10	<b>Report back from Stakeholders</b>	
10.1	<b>Phumelela Municipality</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Warden pump station 1 is being refurbished, fenced and electrified.</li> <li>• Warden Pump Station 2, pumps have been replaced.</li> <li>• Sewage plant is being upgraded; they are only waiting for other new pumps to be delivered. Currently they appointed a consultant to do the pipe works. The consultant will install other pipes at the Treatment Works.</li> <li>• It was mentioned that in this project they have spent 6 900 000 (six million and nine hundred thousand).</li> <li>• The project at the WWTW is still at stage 3 of progress.</li> <li>• R Shibambo indicated that he received the letter from the municipality notifying the Department that the project will be finalized by the end of September 2011.</li> <li>• The chairperson mentioned that we have to congratulate Phumelela Municipality for the progress that they have made on the project.</li> </ul>	
10.2	<b>Nketoana Municipality</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aerators have been repaired and are in place / operational</li> <li>• The pumps to the biofilters are still out of operational.</li> <li>• Contractors are busy fencing at the WWTW</li> </ul>	
10.3	<b>Dihlabeng</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bethlehem Sewage plant- contractors are busy, the plant is able to carry 25 mg liter per day. The only problem it will be during rainy season because the plant cannot handle storm water that runs into the system.</li> </ul>	
10.4	<b>Mafube Municipality</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It was reported that they have purchased the cables but they are still battling with security because the place is not fenced. They further requested anyone to assist with the fence.</li> </ul>	
10.5	<b>Thabo Mofutsanyane</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reported that they are having technical problems with laboratory because, that laboratory is not accredited, however, they continued to take water samples for quality assurance.</li> <li>• Monthly water sector meeting will take place on Friday the 25<sup>th</sup> of November</li> </ul>	

	2011, in order to discuss water and sanitation in the district. Members of the forum will be invited.	
10.6	<p><b>MAP Water</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Harrismith – the funds to upgrade the plant have been approved and the consultant to run the project has been appointed.</li> <li>• Kestel Sewage works – they were having problems with biofilters hopefully it will be fixed in a month time.</li> <li>• Map Water – Currently they are at a first stage of reviewing their by-laws, with the intention that, by next year May 2012, all stages will be completed</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was a pollution incident at Elands. Their main pipe line burst, it was leaking but they managed to repair it. Also mentioned that he will verify if it was reported to DWA.</li> </ul>	
10.7	<p><b>Free State DETEA</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>No representative</b></li> </ul>	
10.8	<p><b>Environmental Health</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reported that there were awareness campaign at schools and crèches on how to wash hands. Also engaged on water borne diseases. Lot of schools have been covered, probably next meeting they will be able to give the exact figure on how many schools were covered.</li> <li>• District Municipality is taking over the Global Toilet day celebration that will take place on the 25 November 2011. They are going to give information on how sanitation coverage in the district is going to be done.</li> <li>• Had problems with water quality monitoring at Phumelela, they have been taking some samples at Warden although the sample were taken to an unaccredited laboratory. Also mentioned that at warden monitoring system is not good, during rainy season they are having high E.coli. Hoping that through the assistant of Wilge forum they will improve.</li> </ul>	
11.	<p><b>Water Use Licence Status</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Map water - submitted Water Use License still at evaluation stage.</li> <li>• Dihlabeng- the consult is still busy with the application.</li> <li>• Nketoana evaluated only waiting for the reserve.</li> <li>• Phumelela Municipality - they submitted but the information was insufficient, they were sent a letter to re-apply.</li> <li>• Mafube Municipality – did not submit Water Use License Application because they are still waiting for the outstanding information from their consultants.</li> </ul>	
12.	<p><b>Catchment Management Agency (CMA) update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upper Vaal Water Management Area has been prioritized by Head Office to</li> </ul>	

	be established as a CMA, the meeting was held on October 2011. Other information will be provided in the next meeting.	
13.	<b>Discussion of additional agenda</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There were no additions.</li> </ul>	
14.	<b>General</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• R Shibambo to address the issue of non attendance of stakeholders.</li> </ul>	R Shibambo
15.	<b>Date of Next Meeting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 14 February Phumelela Municipality (Warden).</li> </ul>	
16.	<b>Closure</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NP Cindi thanked everyone for participating and adjourned the meeting.</li> </ul>	