

**PROPOSED WEMBEZI WATER CONSERVATION AND DEMAND MANAGEMENT BULK WATER AND
RETICULATION SCHEME UPGRADE, INKOSI LANGALIBALELE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, UTHUKELA
DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, KWAZULU-NATAL**

TITLE	Pre-Application Meeting: Wembezi			
VENUE	Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs - Colenso Road, next to Caltex Garage, Pieter's Industrial Area, Outside Ladysmith			
DATE	08 June 2017			
TIME	10h30			
ATTENDEES	Name	Abv.	Company	Email
	Ayanda Khulu	AK	EDTEA	Ayanda.khulu@kznedtea.gov.za
	Nqobile Makhanya	NM	EDTEA	Nqobile.makhanya@kznedtea.gov.za
	Liz Dralle	LD	Terratest	drallel@terratest.co.za
	Bongumusa Ndaba	BN	Terratest	ndabab@terratest.co.za
	Imke Summers	IS	Terratest	summersi@terratest.co.za
	Tarryn Rodgers	TR	JG Afrika	Rogerst@jgafrika.com
ACRONYMS	EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment		
	EDTEA	Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs		
	PP	Public Participation		
	DBAR	Draft Basic Assessment Report		
	EMPr	Environmental Management Programme		

ITEM	DESCRIPTION OF DISCUSSION	ACTION
1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION		
1.1	LD welcomed everyone and introduced BN and IS from Terratest (Pty) Ltd and TR, the appointed Engineer from JG Afrika (Pty) Ltd. LD noted that TR designed the bulk line and reticulation for the Wembezi water conservation and demand management bulk water and reticulation scheme upgrade and that she was in attendance to assist in providing clarity on any technical details that may arise.	General
1.2	LD noted that the proposed upgrade includes the installation of a new 8km High-density Polyethylene (HDPE) 750mm diameter (Ø), rising main bulk pipeline from the existing pump station at George Cross Water Treatment Works, to a new 10 Mega-litre (MI) bulk storage reservoir located in Wembezi. The proposed rising main bulk water pipeline will be aligned to run alongside an existing Ø355mm steel rising main which currently serves the existing 10MI Wembezi Reservoir, within an existing servitude.	General
1.3	The project also includes for the upgrade of the existing water reticulation scheme in Wembezi, which will amount to the replacement of approximately 160 993m of reticulation pipeline, ranging from Ø75mm unplasticized polyvinyl chloride (uPVC) to Ø500 HDPE. All reticulation will be constructed within the same footprint as the previously installed network.	General
2. PROPOSED ACTIVITY AND ASSOCIATED LISTED ACTIVITIES		
2.1	The following information was presented at the Pre-Application Meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brief overview of the project, including need; Locality maps; Layout maps; and Listed Activity maps, specific to Listing Notice 3 and the urban area as defined in the EIA Regulations (2014, as amended). 	General

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2.2	LD noted that the upgraded is required as Wembezi experiences severe water losses from the existing, dated infrastructure and supply is therefore unreliable. The neighbouring area of Ntabamhlophe feeds off the Wembezi infrastructure, and as this is failing, the area of Ntabamhlophe also receives an unreliable supply of water, if any at all. The proposed development therefore forms part of a larger project, which aims to upgrade water infrastructure and potable water supply in both the areas of Wembezi and in the neighbouring area of Ntabamhlophe. An additional aim of the upgrade is to stop the unnecessary and extreme water losses currently experienced in the area and is thus also considered to be a water conservation initiative.	General
2.3	TR noted that current water potable water loses are in excess of 9.0 Mega-litres (MI) per day, as a result of the old damage network infrastructure in the Wembezi area.	General
2.4	<p>To curtail the unnecessary loss of potable water and hence to expediate the process if possible, LD proposed that an Environmental Screening Assessment be conducted for the reticulation component, ensuring that no construction works occur within 32m of a watercourse or deposited or removed from a watercourse (being the only Listed Activities triggered). Construction activities will therefore only include for the replacement of existing potable water pipelines in the Wembezi area, outside of any watercourses.</p> <p>Should the EDTEA agree with the outcomes of the Environmental Screening Assessment, the replacement of the reticulation network will commence while the proposed bulk pipeline development undergoes an Application for Environmental Authorisation, through a Basic Assessment Process. The watercourse crossings required for the reticulation component would then be included in the bulk Basic Assessment Process in order to ascertain Environmental Authorisation prior to construction.</p> <p>AK noted that she would review the Environmental Screening Assessment Report, conduct a site visit and discuss the proposed methodology with her superior prior to making a decision.</p>	General
2.5	<p>LD noted the Listed Activities (as amended, 2014) which are applicable to the bulk pipeline only:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listing Notice 1: GNR 327 Activity 9, 12, 19; and • Listing Notice 3: GNR 324 Activity 14. <p>AK agreed, pending a site visit.</p>	General
2.6	LD noted that the based on the evaluation of the proposed reticulation against the NEMA: EIA Regulations of 2014, the reticulation infrastructure does not trigger Listed Activities requiring Environmental Authorisation from EDTEA, barring construction within 32m of a watercourse and deposition or removal of material into or out of a watercourse.	General
2.7	LD queried if Wembezi is considered to be an urban area in its entirety, as this would have implications on Listing Notice 3 activities. AY noted that feedback would be provided.	AY
2.8	WAY FORWARD: LD to submit the Environmental Screening Report detailing the proposed development and arrange a site visit with EDTEA.	LD
3. SPECIALIST STUDIES		
3.1	LD noted that a Biodiversity and Wetland Assessment Specialist has already been undertaken for the entire development (i.e. bulk pipeline and reticulation). All wetland systems have been identified and delineated. Approximately 25 drainage line crossings are required for the reticulation upgrade. All watercourse, inclusive of drainage lines and wetlands, have been delineated and afforded a 32m buffer in terms of best practise.	General
3.2	LD noted that a Heritage Impact Assessment and Palaeontological Assessment has been conducted for the entire development.	General

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3.3	LD noted that a Water Use Licence Application will be undertaken concurrently with the Basic Assessment Application.	General
4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS		
4.1	<p>LD noted that the Public Participation Process would include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The placing of posters in English and IsiZulu on site; • The placing of advertisements in the Witness newspaper and Ilanga Newspaper; • Distributing flyers, written in isiZulu to community members; • Compiling a register of Interested and Affected Parties (IAPs); • Notifying IAPs of the availability of the Draft Basic Assessment Report once compiled; and • Allowing a 30 day comment period to all registered IAPs. <p>AY noted that the Public Participation Process proposed is sufficient.</p>	General
5. Way forward		
5.1	Site visit with EDTEA and submission of an Environment Screening Assessment Report.	General





Minutes captured by B. Ndaba.


Appendix 1: Attendance Register

PROPOSED WEMBEZI TOWNSHIP BULK WATER AND RETICULATION SCHEME UPGRADE WITHIN UMTSHEZI LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, UTHUKELA DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, KWAZULU-NATAL

PRE-APPLICATION MEETING ATTENDANCE REGISTER

MEETING DETAILS	
DATE:	07 June 2017
TIME:	10h30
VENUE:	Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs, uThukela District Municipality

Name	Organisation	Email	Sign
AYANDA KHULU	EOTEA	ayanda.khulu@kzedka.gov.za	
Liz Dralle	Terratest (Pty) Ltd	terratest dralle@terratest.co.za	
Bongumisa Ndaba	Terratest (Pty) Ltd	ndaba.b@terratest.co.za	
Imke Summers	Terratest (Pty) Ltd	summersi@terratest.co.za	

Name	Organisation	Email	Sign
Taryn Rodgers	JG Afrika	rodgerst@jgafrika.com	
Ngobile Makwane	EDTEA	Ngobile.Makwane@edtea.co.za	