LUSIKISIKI REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY SCHEME

O R TAMBO DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE
SOUTH AFRICA

P WMA 12/T60/00/5414/2

REPORT ON THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS

Prepared for:

Department of Water & Sanitation

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1. INTRODUCTION

The current report describes the outcomes of the Public Participation Process (PPP) and the engagement with Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process required in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) for the purposes of obtaining Environmental Authorization (EA) for the proposed Lusikisiki Regional Water Supply Scheme (LRWSS) (hereinafter referred to as the project).

The objectives of the PPP are to:

- Ensure an open and transparent EIA process as well as a process of consultation during the initial inception phase of the project design;
- Identify and involve all I&APs as well as provide information on the details of the project and the associated EIA process;
- Acquire an understanding of the issues and concerns raised by the I&APs with regard to the project, as well as their inputs towards identifying and assessing the impacts of the project;
- Keep a register of the issues, concerns and problems raised by I&APs during the PPP; and
- Set out and manage the issues raised by all I&APs.

This process includes organising public and stakeholder consultation meetings, to which all I&APs and other stakeholders are invited, and where they have an opportunity to express their concerns, expectations and comments with regard to the proposed project and the environmental approval process.

All meetings that were held during the initial stakeholder engagement and during the scoping phase of this EIA are detailed in this report. This report will be updated once the public meetings to be held during the EIR phase are finalised, so as to become one single document pertaining to the entire PPP process of the LRWSS project. The final PPP document, including all the minutes of the meetings, will be included as part of the final EIR report to be submitted to DEA for decision making.

1.1 Consultant

The appointed Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) for the LRWSS project is:
Coastal & Environmental Services (CES)
16 Tyrell Road, Berea, 5210
P.O Box 8145, Nahoon, 5210
East London, South Africa

1.2 PPP Team

Dr Alan Carter (Reviewer, PSC meeting coordinator).
Director of the East London Office, has extensive training and experience in both financial accounting and environmental science disciplines with international accounting firms in South Africa and the USA. He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and holds a PhD in Plant Sciences. He is also a certified ISO14001 EMS auditor with the American National Standards Institute and the British Standards Institute.
Mr Roy de Kock (Project Manager).
Roy is a Senior Consultant holding a BSc Honours in Geology and an MSc in Botany from the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University in Port Elizabeth. His MSc thesis focused on Rehabilitation Ecology using an open-cast mine as a case study. He has been working for CES since 2010, and is based at the East London branch where he focuses on Ecological and Agricultural Assessments, Geological and Geotechnical analysis, Environmental Management Plans, mining applications and various environmental impact studies. Roy has worked on numerous projects in South Africa, Mozambique and Malawi.

Mr Lungisa Bosman. (Public Participation Process and Liaison with the I&APs, Compilation of PPP Report)
Mr Bosman holds a Bachelor of Social Science (1993) from University of Cape Town, with majors in Public Administration & Sociology, and a Post Graduate Diploma in Organisation and Management. Lungisa has twelve years of consulting experience specifically involved in public participation and community engagement. He is currently a senior consultant at Coastal & Environmental Services with a lot of experience in EIAs especially Social Impact Assessments and Public Consultation. He has been involved in a number of projects in South Africa and other Africans countries like Malawi and Mozambique. Some of the projects where he has brought his social facilitation skills to bear include the Malawi Monazite Mine, Chibuto CSL mine project, Kynsna N2 Highway, Wildcoast N2 Toll Road and a number of wind farm projects and smaller basic assessments.

Ms Caitlin Smith. (EIR Report Writer).
Environmental Consultant. Caitlin holds a BSc degree in Geology and Geography and a BSc Honours Degree (with distinction) in Geology both obtained from Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University. Caitlin has 4 years’ experience as a mining geologist in the heavy mineral sand mining industry. Caitlin has a keen interest in the water sector.
2. PROJECT LOCATION

The Study Area comprises the region between Lusikisiki (up to about 15 km inland) and the coast, extending from the Mzimvubu River in the south-west to the Msikaba River in the north-east, as shown on Figure 2.1 and 2.2 below.

The proposed activity consists of the following components:

**The Zalu Dam and inundation area** – The dam will consist of an earth core rockfill dam with a full supply level of 622.6 masl. It is anticipated that the dam will yield 6.85 million m³/a at 1:100 year assurance of supply. The area that will be inundated as a result of the proposed Zalu Dam is approximately 143.47 hectares in size. No resettlement will be required.

**Reticulation of raw water to the existing treatment works** – A pipeline will be constructed from the Zalu Dam to the existing water treatment works on the outskirts of Lusikisiki. The final location of this route will be provided in the EIR. In addition to this it is anticipated that the water treatment works will be upgraded to cater for the increase in capacity required.

**Reticulation of treated water to various reservoirs** – Potable water will be transferred from the water treatment works to a number of reservoirs via a combination of existing and/or new pipelines. Existing pipelines may require upgrading. The location of new pipelines is shown as a dotted line in Figure 2.2 below. The final layout of these pipelines will be provided in the EIR.

**Reticulation of treated water from reservoirs to households** – Potable water will be transferred from the reservoirs to households via a combination of existing and/or new pipelines (Figure 2.2).

**Borrow pits for dam construction** – The process of dam construction will require rock material and from the pre-feasibility study (MJ Trümpelmann, 2014) it shows that sufficient construction materials are available for a rockfill dam in close proximity to the proposed construction site. Residual dolerite clay is available in a borrow area downstream of the dam centreline on the right bank of the river. This material is sufficient for a central earthfill core for a rockfill dam. Two rockfill quarries with unweathered dolerite, one on the right bank and one on the left bank, 10 km upstream of the centreline of the proposed dam, were identified. These sources are located below the full supply level of the dam.
Figure 2.1: Locality map of the Zalu Dam.
Figure 2.2: Locality map illustrating pipelines.
3. LEGISLATION GUIDING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Public Participation Process or PPP (which in this report is used as a synonym for Stakeholder Engagement) of the EIA aims to:

- Identify the I&APs;
- Disseminate information to them;
- Manage a dialogue with the proponent of the activity; and
- Assimilate and take into account public comments received and feedback on the outcomes of the dialogue and inputs so as to demonstrate how these have been taken into account in the design of the project.

PPP is an integral part of the EIA process and does not necessarily end with the issuing of the EA, but continues during the construction and operational phases of the planned activity. The process of stakeholder engagement involves the process of listening to the opinions expressed by the various sectors of civil society, including public or private entities or individuals, directly or indirectly, or potentially affected by the proposed activity. PPP must be carried out in compliance with directives issued by DEA under NEMA.

3.1 Public Participation Process

54. (1) This regulation only applies in instances where adherence to the provisions of this regulation is specifically required.

(2) The person conducting a public participation process must take into account any guidelines applicable to public participation as contemplated in section 24J of the Act and must give notice to all potential interested and affected parties of the application which is subjected to public participation by—

(a) fixing a notice board at a place conspicuous to the public at the boundary or on the fence of—
   (i) the site where the activity to which the application relates is or is to be undertaken; and
   (ii) any alternative site mentioned in the application;

(b) giving written notice to—
   (i) the owner or person in control of that land if the applicant is not the owner or person in control of the land; for this project letters were given to traditional leaders of the affected areas.
   (iv) the municipal councillor of the ward in which the site or alternative site is situated and any organisation of ratepayers that represent the community in the area; Ward councillors and municipal officials were invited to the public meetings and were given information regarding the project.
   (v) the municipality which has jurisdiction in the area;
   (vi) any organ of state having jurisdiction in respect of any aspect of the activity; and
   (vii) any other party as required by the competent authority;

(c) placing an advertisement in—adverts were placed in the Daily Dispatch

(e) using reasonable alternative methods, as agreed to by the competent authority, in those instances where a person desires to be a part of but is unable to participate in the process due to—
   (i) illiteracy;
   (ii) disability; or
   (iii) any other disadvantage. CES is having public meetings in communities to help present the information in mother language for those illiterate IAPs and so that the distance travelled to get information on the project is reduced.

(7) When complying with this regulation, the person conducting the public participation process must ensure that—

(a) information containing all relevant facts in respect of the application is made available to potential interested and affected parties; and