

Background Information Document

Augmentation and Extension of the Wartburg Bulk Water System, Incorporating Water Supply to Greater Efaye and Ozwatini

DAEA Reference No. DC22/EX/0001/06

PURPOSE OF THE DOCUMENT

The purpose of this document is to afford stakeholders the opportunity to register as Interested and Affected Parties (I&AP's) for the purposes of the environmental impact assessment process requirements. As an identified I&AP's, the document also gives you an overview on the following:

- Background to the proposed project.
- The need for the proposed project.
- Description of the proposed project.
- Public Participation Process.
- Your role as an I&AP.
- The role of an environmental assessment practitioner.
- Permission to enter properties.
- How to participate.
- Invitation to participate.
- Information on the Public Participation Office.

1 BACKGROUND TO THE PROPOSED PROJECT

Umgeni Water has embarked on an initiative to extend its current bulk potable water distribution system to provide a sustainable supply to as many communities as possible. This initiative has been named the KwaZulu Natal Regional Bulk Water Supply Plan.

The Wartburg bulk supply system has been identified as one of the systems that should be extended. The extension of this system will provide an improved level of service to the communities of Greater Efaye and Ozwatini areas and various en-route consumers.

The Wartburg Bulk Water Supply System forms part of Umgeni Water's upper Mgeni System and supplies water from the DV Harris Water Treatment Plant to the areas of Wartburg, Swayimana, New Hanover, Cool Air, Dalton as well as several en-route consumers.

Water is gravitated from the Belfort Reservoir for approximately 19km and thereafter pumped for 7kms to two adjacent reservoirs in Wartburg. Water is further distributed from the Wartburg Reservoirs to the Dalton Reservoir where the existing system ends.

Umgeni Water plans to extend the Wartburg bulk water supply system from the Dalton Reservoir to supply the areas of Greater Efaye and Ozwatini. However, the existing system will not be able to cope

with increased demand and hence the need to augment the existing pipeline to Wartburg and incorporate the currently unused Claridge Reservoir into the system.

Scope

The project area as depicted in **Figure 1**, extends from the Claridge and Belfort Reservoirs, which are situated adjacent to each other just north of the Pietermaritzburg CBD, in a northeasterly direction to Wartburg and Dalton. The study area extends further northeast to the areas of Efaye and Ozwatini to where the Wartburg System will be extended.

2 THE NEED FOR THE PROJECT

The augmentation and extension of the Wartburg Bulk Water Supply, incorporating Water Supply to Greater Efaye and Ozwatini areas is in support of government objectives, one of which is service backlog eradication (done in accordance with the Water Services Development Plans and Integrated Development Plans of relevant Water Services Authorities).

3 PROPOSED PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed project will entail the following:

- Augmentation (put in second pipeline) of the existing "Wartburg" pipeline from Claridge Reservoir to Dalton (within an existing Umgeni Water Servitude where possible).
- Increasing the size of the existing Umgeni Water Servitude to accommodate the second pipeline.
- Extend the system from Dalton Reservoir to Efaye and Ozwatini.
- Acquisition of servitude for the extended pipeline.
- Increase the storage capacity of Wartburg Reservoir (from 1.5 megalitres to 10 megalitres).
- Increase the storage capacity of Dalton Reservoir (from 0.8 megalitres to 5 megalitres).
- Installation of three pumps stations (first between Claridge and Wartburg, second between Wartburg and Dalton, third between Dalton and Ozwatini).

4 PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION PROCESS

- The new pipelines will range from 700mm to 300mm in diameter will most probably be constructed of steel. Other pipe materials will be considered and the final decision will be made during the detailed design stage.
- To enable a pipeline of this diameter to be constructed, trenches ranging from 2m to 4m deep and 2m wide will be required.
- Mechanical excavators will be used to excavate these trenches and it may be necessary to blast rock at certain places.
- Due to the large pipes, plant and machinery and large volume of earthworks, a working servitude of at least 20m will be necessary.
- The working servitude will be demarcated and construction activities limited to these boundaries. Access routes to the working servitude will be agreed with the relevant landowners.
- In addition to the working servitude, additional working sites will be required for storage of pipes and materials and setting up of construction site offices. Permission for these sites will also be sought from the relevant landowners.
- After the project the entire area will be re-habilitated. Umgeni will follow its 'in-house' Environmental Management Plan to rehabilitate the environment.

Factors that will be considered during detailed planning and design

In designing the route the following factors will be taken into consideration:

- Maximizing the use of gravity to move water through the system.
- Minimizing the disruption on cultivated and built up areas.

- Routing new servitudes as close to the existing servitude as possible so as to minimize the impact on landowners.
- Routing the pipeline close to existing access areas.
- Minimising the impact on the environment.

Possible Key Environmental Impacts Identified

It is envisaged that most of the environmental impacts will be the primary impacts that occur during the construction phase of this project. The following have been noted:

- Temporary loss of crops;
- Temporary vegetation loss;
- Habitat loss;
- Permanent loss of trees along the servitude; and
- Noise associated with construction.

These environmental impacts will be appropriately mitigated (methods and specifications will be included in the Environmental Management Plan).

Social Impacts/Considerations

Where possible local labour would be used for the project, however this could give rise to a secondary impact where farmer workers leave to work on the project. These impacts will be reduced by proactive communication and discussions with farmers and employees.

In addition, an Umgeni Water representative will be available throughout the project for community liaison i.e. to address specific issues relating to policies and procedures.

Servitudes and Crop Compensation

A representative of Umgeni Water will be contacting you to discuss servitudes and crop compensation in detail.

5 WHAT IS A PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS?

Public Participation is the involvement of all I&APs in all the Basic Assessment activities prior to submission of an application to the Competent Authority. This is the corner stone of the process and governed by the National Environmental Management Act guidelines.

The key objectives of public participation for this particular proposed project are to:

- provide all identified and registered I&AP with sufficient and transparent information on an ongoing basis
- Identify, assess and address issues that affect the I&AP both individually and as a group. Typical individual issues are issues around access to property and crop compensation
- The Public Participation Process will commence in January 2007 with completion at approximately end of June 2007.

Critical to the realization of the Public Participation Process objectives is diligent fulfillment of roles and responsibilities by both the I&APs and the developer. These roles and responsibilities are presented below:

6 YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

- You, as an I&AP have a right to participate in the process by, inter alia, requesting for further information where required.
- Make known to the consultant your concerns regarding the environment and the construction of the pipeline and related facilities (pump stations and reservoirs).

- You must register with the public participation office as an I&AP. Alternatively, you may register through a representative grouping, for example, an association or a local committee.
- Inform others whom you think are potential I&AP's.
- You may register at any stage of the process. However, it is important to register as soon as possible.
- Attend public meetings called to discuss the Environmental Impact Assessment.

7 OUR RESPONSIBILITY

We will be available and contactable by telephone, cellphone, fax and e-mail, registration form or post using contact details provided at the end of this document

Upon receipt of any comments / queries / issues from you, we will:

- Enter into the project database all contact details provided by you and all further information releases will be subsequently sent to you.
- Respond in writing to all queries.
- Record your details and queries / comments if called. Where questions cannot be responded to immediately, such will be attended to as soon as possible with a response.

8 HOW DO YOU PARTICIPATE

Your participation will be through

- Responding to our invitation for your participation.
- Sending by hand, fax, e-mail, mail the attached registration form to Khanyisa Projects.
- Attendance at public meetings (as a registered I & AP, you will be sent notices of these meetings).
- Contacting us whenever you have a query / comments or require further project information.
- Reviewing draft Environmental Impact Assessment Reports and final draft Environmental Impact Assessment Report within a 30-day review period.

9 PERMISSION TO ENTER YOUR PROPERTY

Umgeni Water requests your permission to allow project personnel entry to your property for the purposes of planning, environmental assessments, survey and construction related activities. Please indicate your consent in the space provided in the attached Registration Form.

10 INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE

As an interested and affected party for this project, you are invited to register as an I&AP by filling in the attached Registration Form. Please use the opportunities created by the public participation process to become actively involved and provide comments, advice and seek information on project aspects that affect you.

By completing and submitting the attached Registration Form, you automatically register yourself as an I&AP and that will ensure that all your comments regarding the project will be noted.

We look forward to your participation and please feel free to suggest other people that you feel should be registered as I&AP's.

11 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OFFICE

Lawrence Ngubane or Nick Alcock

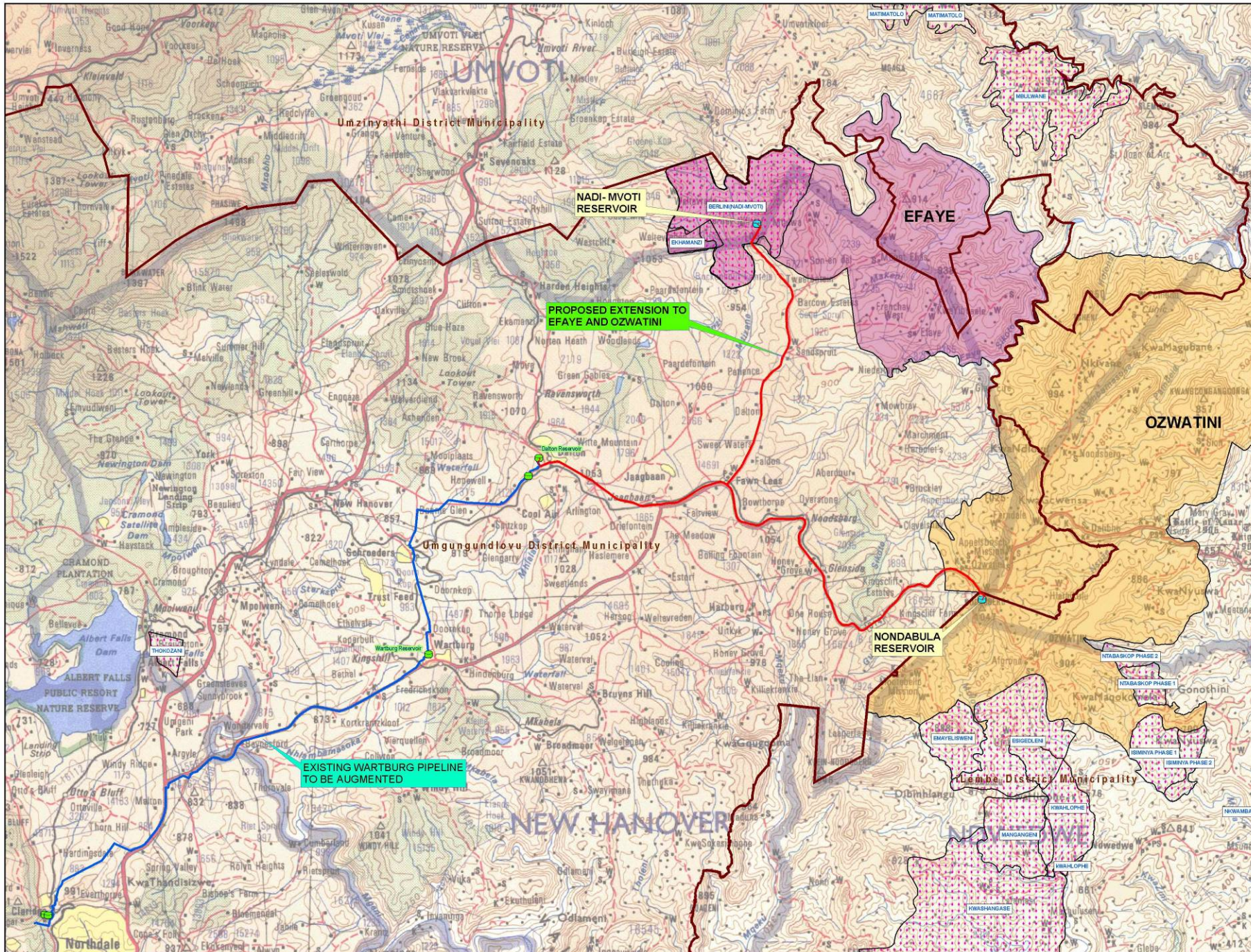
Khanyisa Projects

P O Box 1318, Westville, 3630

Tel: 031 – 208 3636

FAX: 031 – 207 2647

E-mail: lawrence@khanyisapr.co.za
nick@khanyisapr.co.za



NOTES



LEGEND

- Existing Reservoirs
- Existing Borehole Dabors
- Proposed Extension to Efaye & Ozwatini
- Existing Footprint
- Easement Footprint
- ICF Projects
- Municipalities

PROPOSED AUGMENTATION AND EXTENSION OF THE WARTBURG BULK SYSTEM INCORPORATING SUPPLY TO EFAYE AND OZWATINI
GENERAL LAYOUT SHOWING EXISTING AND PROPOSED PIPELINES

UMGEN Managing Water for Life
 WARD - ANKAS
 Produced by: Planning Services
 Umgen Water

| Date | Revision / Amendments | Sign |
|------|-----------------------|------|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

| SHEET | SCALE | REVISION |
|-------|--------|----------|
| 1 | 1:5000 | 0 |

© 2014 UMGEN Water Services (Pty) Ltd. All Rights Reserved. No part of this document may be reproduced without the prior written permission of UMGEN Water Services (Pty) Ltd.



REGISTRATION FORM FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Proposed Augmentation and Extensions of the Wartburg Bulk Water System, Incorporating Water Supply to Greater Efaye and Ozwatini



DAEA Reference No. DC22/EX/0001/06

Title:..... Name: Surname:.....

Company Name / Interested Group

Postal or Residential Address

.....

Area: Postal Code:.....

Tel: () Mobile:

Fax: () e-mail address:

Comments on the proposed development (You are welcome to use separate sheets)

Access to private property granted Yes | No |

How will the proposed project impact on you?.....

.....

If the proposed project would impact on you negatively, how do you suggest such an impact should be mitigated?.....

.....

.....

Cultural/Historical issues (e.g. graveyards and other).....

.....

Socio-economic issues (e.g. crime/job creation)

.....

Any other issues / comments

.....

.....

How would you like to be further involved?

.....

.....

Details of other I & APS to be consulted

Title:..... Name: Surname:.....

Company Name.....

Tel: () Fax: ().....

**Please return this registration sheet by any of the following communication methods by 23 February 2007 Attention to: Khanyisa Projects
Lawrence Ngubane / Nick Alcock
Fax: 031 207 2647 - Tel: 031 208 3636
e-mail: mercia@khanyisapr.co.za
Post: P O Box 1318; Westville; 3630**

Signature:..... ID Number:.....

Date:.....

Your comments are highly appreciated, and they will form part of the final document to be submitted to the decision-making authority.

Thank You