



MCWAP-2A CONTRACT No TCTA 20-041

RECORD OF MEETING/DISCUSSION/ACTION LIST

Date: 14/08/2023 Location: Webmeeting File No: 01/02/04/
 Time: 11:20 – 13:50am

Note: The minutes are not intended as a verbatim transcript of the meeting, but rather a summary of the salient discussions which took place during the meeting.

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| Subject : | MOKOLO AND CROCODILE RIVER (WEST) WATER AUGMENTATION PROJECT (PHASE 2A) (MCWAP-2A): | |
| Present : | Samkelisiwe Dlamini (SD) | DFFE |
| | Masina Morudu (MM) | DFFE |
| | Shaun Davis (SD) | TCTA |
| | Deon Esterhuizen (DE) | GBN-JV |
| | Umeshree Naicker (UN) | GBN-JV |
| | Minenhle Luthuli (ML) | GBN-JV |
| Distribution : | All present | |

| Description: | By | Action |
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| 1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION | | |
| DE welcomed and acknowledged all present and requested introductions around the table. DE defined the TCTA and GBN-JV 's roles and responsibilities on the project. | | |
| 2. MCWAP 2A Project Background and existing EAs | | |
| The following project background was provided: a. The GIBB Bigen Nyeleti Joint Venture (GBN-JV) has been appointed by the Trans-Caledon Tunnel Authority (TCTA), on behalf of the Applicant (Department of Water and Sanitation) to undertake the Basic Assessment Process for the Mokolo Crocodile River (West) Water Augmentation Project Phase 2A (MCWAP2A). b. In 2018, Nemaï Consulting CC (Nemaï) was appointed by the TCTA to conduct the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process for the MCWAP 2A. The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) issued the EA (Reference No. 14/12/16/3/3/2/1100) on 18 March 2019. Subsequent to the issuing of the EA, appeals were lodged by a number of parties, and the outcome of the appeal process was issued on 13 October 2020. c. The conditions within the EA stipulated specialist studies that must be conducted to input into the design of the MCWAP 2A. After reviewing the EIA (2018) recommendations and the conditions of the EA, the GBN-JV appointed eighteen (18) specialists to undertake various environmental studies. | | |

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| <p>d. In 2022, the GBN-JV conducted a Basic Assessment process (BA) and the Project Deviations. DFFE issued a consolidated EA (Reference No. 14/12/16/3/3/2/1100) on 29 July 2022 as per Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014 (as amended) Regulation 25 (4) that states that <i>“the competent authority may replace an existing valid environmental authorisation with an environmental authorisation contemplated in this regulation, indicating the extent of replacement in the environmental authorisation, if the existing valid environmental authorisation is directly related to the application for environmental authorisation”</i> (Please see attached in Annexure A).</p> <p>e. This application is for the re-routing of the High Lift Rising Main (HLRM) at Eskom Powerlines assessed in this Basic Assessment Report, are critical to ensure constructability, avoidance of key infrastructure (Eskom) and high induced current into the pipeline and high fault level currents, which will result in increased safety risks during construction of the pipeline and during future operation and maintenance of the pipeline.</p> | | |
| <p>3. Future Basic Assessment Applications</p> | | |
| <p>3.1 DE advised that three (3) gauging weirs will require expansion / upgrade intervention. These activities were identified as triggering Listed Activities as defined in terms of Sections 24(2) and 24D of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998). DE listed the flow gauging weirs, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Beestekraal Weir on the Crocodile River (West) ii. Atlanta Weir on the Crocodile River (West). iii. Paul Hugo Weir on the Crocodile River (West) <p>3.2 DE advised that the BA application is underway.</p> | | |
| <p>4. Re-routing of the High Lift Rising Main (HLRM)</p> | | |
| <p>4.1 DE indicated that the re-routing of the High Lift Rising Main (HLRM) at Eskom Powerlines on Farms Mecklenburg 310 KQ Portion 1, Paarl 124 KQ REM, Portion 6 and Portion 7 (from chainage 9800m to 16200m) which is approximately 6km pipeline section (refer to Annexure B).</p> <p>4.2 DE advised that Eskom has reassessed the HLRM route and have and the Engineers have gone back to site to assess Eskom’s concerns. Eskom has advised that the current alignment will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) high induced current into the pipeline and high fault level currents, b) an increased safety risk during construction of the pipeline and during future operation and maintenance of the pipeline, c) safety risks of working with side booms, cranes and heavy earth moving equipment within the Eskom servitude, and a) the risk of damage to stay and earth wires over this 6.4 km section of pipeline. b) | | |

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| <p>4.3 There are three alignment alternatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Western Alternative b) Eastern Alternative; and c) Sub-Alternative to the Eastern Alternative (this sub alternative 'dog leg' considers avoiding the homestead). <p>DE advised that the Eastern Alternative with the dog leg is the preferred alternative, indicating that the Western Alternative would still pose the risk of crossing the Eskom powerlines and the Eastern Alternative cuts into the homestead.</p> | | |
| <p>5. <u>EIA Process</u></p> | | |
| <p>5.1 The Listed activities triggered in terms of National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No 107 of 1998 were presented.</p> <p>5.2 A summary of the timeframes associated with the EIA timeframes, based on the Regulations of 2014, is provided on slide no. 15 of the presentation (refer to Annexure B).</p> <p>5.3 DE indicated that the intention is to undertake a Public Participation Process for the BA, in accordance with regulation 17 of the Regulations of 2014</p> <p>He also advised that a landowner meeting was held on 25 July 2023 to present the project re-routing. A meeting with Eskom have been scheduled.</p> <p>5.4 DE advised that the screening via the DFFE screening Tool has been completed. He indicated that there are no new properties that have been including for the rerouting of the pipeline. Existing specialist studies conducted for the EIA process (2018) process will be utilised for the BA process. In addition the following studies will be conducted for the application:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Desktop Wetland Assessment, • Desktop Ecology Assessment, and • Heritage and Palaeontology Impact Assessment. | | |
| <p>6. <u>DFFE Requirement and Discussion</u></p> | | |
| <p>6.1 DE asked if studies with low and medium sensitivity themes i.e Defence and Civil Aviation will require to be assessed and if DFFE have a database of Defence specialists. SD advised that DFFE does not have a database of Defence specialists.</p> <p>MM advised that should this application be approved, a separate EA will be issued. MM reiterated that there is no need to merge the consolidated EA with the HLRM EA. The consolidated EA will be mentioned.</p> | | |
| <p>7. <u>Way Forward</u></p> | | |
| <p>The minutes will be circulated.</p> | | |

ANNEXURE A

ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION REFERENCE NO. 14/12/16/3/3/2/1100

ANNEXURE B

MCWAP-2A HLRM PRESENTATION