

<b>Minutes of Public Meeting with Downstream Water Users, Dingley Dale</b>	
<b>RE: BASIC ASSESSMENT (BA) PROCESS FOR THE PROPOSED CASTEEL DAM SAFETY REHABILITATION PROJECT, FARM KASTEEL 231-KU, BUSHBUCKRIDGE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE</b>	
<b>Project name</b>	Casteel Dam Safety Rehabilitation Project
<b>Date &amp; Time Meeting</b>	26 October 2022, 09:00
<b>Venue</b>	Faith Mission Church, Dingley Dale A
<b>Chairperson</b>	Marissa Botha, Naledzi Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd (Naledzi)
<b>Translator</b>	Mr Laudrick Selowe - <b>Sepedi and Xitsonga translator</b> Pastor, Dingley Dale Faith Bible Church
<b>Attendees</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Naledzi Environmental Consultants</li> <li>- National Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS): Strategic Infrastructure Asset Management (SIAM) including relevant DWS Regional offices.</li> <li>- DWS Inyaka Dam Controller</li> <li>- Chairperson of the New Forest Irrigation Scheme</li> <li>- Chairperson of the Dingley Dale Irrigation Scheme</li> <li>- Chairperson of Champagne Citrus Board/Irrigation Scheme</li> <li>- Mpumalanga Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs (DARDLEA)</li> <li>- Bushbuckridge Local Municipality</li> <li>- Moreipuso Tribal Council representatives</li> <li>- Ward Committee members for Ward 32</li> <li>- Community representatives from Dingley Dale, Casteel, Chochocho, Champagne, Buffelshoek</li> <li>- Chochocho CPF</li> <li>- Dingley Dale Stock Farmer</li> </ul> <p>Please refer to the attached <b>signed attendance register</b> as <b>Annexure A</b> for more details.</p>
<b>Circulation</b>	The minutes of the meeting have been distributed to the participants via email (where addresses have been provided), through the tribal council offices, Chairpersons of the Irrigation Schemes including the relevant ward councillors.
<b>Agenda</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Welcome</li> <li>▪ Introductions, opening prayer, translation (i.e.Sepedi, Xitsonga)</li> <li>▪ Project Background</li> <li>▪ Project Details</li> <li>▪ Contraction Details</li> <li>▪ Basic Assessment Process (i.e. activities, process description, schedule)</li> <li>▪ Potential impacts and required specialist studies</li> <li>▪ Discussion Session</li> <li>▪ The way forward and closure</li> </ul> <p>The full PowerPoint presentation is attached as <b>Annexure B</b>.</p>
<b>Contents of Minutes</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Discussions</li> <li>2. Identified action items</li> <li>3. Photographic proof of meeting</li> </ol>

# 1. DISCUSSIONS

No	Agenda Item		
1.1	<b>Welcome, Introductions, Prayer</b>		
<p>M Botha welcomed the participants and introduced the project team (i.e. Naledzi and DWS) and translator, Mr Laudrick Selowe. The meeting was opened with a prayer, followed by stakeholder introductions (see attendees above).</p> <p>It was noted that the meeting presentation would be provided in English with Sepedi and Xitsonga translation provided by Mr Selowe. Opportunities for questions and queries would be provided after the presentation.</p>			
<p>The meeting purpose was outlined i.e.</p> <p>Department of Water and Sanitation, Directorate Strategic Infrastructure Asset Management (SIAM) (the applicant) appointed Naledzi Environmental Consultants as the independent environmental assessment practitioner (EAP) to conduct the Basic Assessment (BA) process and associated public participation for the proposed Casteel Dam Safety Rehabilitation project.</p> <p>The purpose of the meeting was to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inform downstream water users of the project, share the project detail and BA process;</li> <li>• Discuss the potential impact on downstream water users;</li> <li>• Record any comments from the respective irrigation schemes, boards, and downstream users that need to be considered and addressed by the EAP during the BA process.</li> </ul>			
1.2	<b>Project Background</b>	<b>Presenter</b>	<b>Marissa Botha, NEC</b>
<p>M Botha outlined that the DWS: SIAM is in charge of dam safety achieved through Dam Safety Evaluations (DSE) conducted every 5 years. Any safety risks identified at these dams are placed on the Dam Safety Rehabilitation Programme (DSRP) for repair.</p> <p>Casteel Dam has been placed on the DWS Dam Safety Rehabilitation Programme (DSRP) for repair based on several safety risks identified during the recent Dam Safety Evaluation (DSE) i.e.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The unstable slope on the downstream dam wall</li> <li>• Dam seepage</li> <li>• Eroded gully further downstream of spillway channel</li> <li>• Outlet works are non-functional</li> </ul> <p>These safety risks were illustrated using the status quo dam infrastructure photographs.</p>			
<p>The locality of Casteel Dam was illustrated using satellite imagery.</p> <p>It was noted that Casteel Dam is a medium-sized earth fill-embankment dam located on a tributary of the Tlulandziteka River on the farm Kasteel 231-JU between the settlements of Casteel and Arthur's Seat next to the R 40 Bushbuckridge-Acornhoek road. The dam is located within the Sand River Catchment and supplies irrigation water to numerous farmers downstream at Dingley Dale, New Forest and Champagne.</p>			
1.3	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Presenter</b>	<b>Marissa Botha, NEC</b>
<p>The rehabilitation scope of works and locality of the components were outlined using a satellite map also noting that the dam capacity would not be expanded or increased. The main rehabilitation works were outlined i.e.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 2.85 Ha of rehabilitation works would be conducted at the main dam embankment, spillway and outlet work.</li> <li>▪ A 0.9 ha temporary site office area would be established northeast of the dam</li> <li>▪ Upgrade and realign the existing access road to the dam</li> </ul>			

- Use of a second access road during construction through Casteel settlement to access the spillway section of the dam.

The DWS Chief Directorate: Construction Management will undertake the necessary rehabilitation works at the dam over a twenty-four (24) month construction period. The existing outlet pipes at the dam will always be available to release water downstream to farmers during construction to ensure continued water supply to users.

DWS will use its skilled labour and source unskilled labour from the community.

No borrow pit will be established. The material will be sourced from a local licensed quarry.

<b>1.4 &amp; 1.5</b>	<b>Legal Requirements and BA process</b>	<b>Presenter</b>	<b>Marissa Botha, NEC</b>
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DWS: SIAM requires environmental authorisation (EA) from the National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE) subject to a BA process and public participation conducted in line with Regulation 19 and 40-44 of the NEMA EIA Regulations of 2014 (GNR 326 as amended). DWS is exempted from the requirement to apply for a WULA; therefore no water use license is required.

Naledzi will conduct the BA process and the associated public participation process. The BA process's purpose is to inform the DFFE and the public of the environmental consequences of the project offered in a Basic Assessment Report (BAR). Based on the findings of the BAR management measures would be recommended in an Environmental Management Program (EMPr) to be observed by the DWS to minimise environmental and social impacts to acceptable levels.

M Botha outlined the BA and public participation process plan and schedule for the project using a process diagram. The main points outlined included:

- BA process reports are informed by field investigations, specialist studies and public inputs.
- The process has a regulated period of 197 days during which two sets of information are shared with the public through two rounds of public engagement i.e.
  - **1<sup>st</sup> Round:** Announces the project by sharing a Background Information Document released for 30 days of public registration and comment including a round of public meetings.
  - **2<sup>nd</sup> Round** – Sees the release of the BAR and EMPr for 30 days of public review and comment follow up by another round of public meetings.

The BA process specialist field investigations will be conducted in November 2022 i.e.

- A Terrestrial Biodiversity to assess the impact on the affected indigenous vegetation and protected trees
- An Aquatic Biodiversity to assess the impact on the wetland, dam and river.
- A Traffic Study to assess the increased traffic from construction vehicles generated at two points on the R40 and along the alternative construction access road.
- A Heritage Impact Assessment is to determine if any heritage / cultural resources may be affected in the project footprint and if any religious /rituals of the community at the dam are to be considered.

As part of the 1<sup>st</sup> round of PPP an advertisement has been placed in the Bushbuckridge News, site notices have been placed onsite and in communal areas and the BID is currently available for registration and inputs until 15 November 2022 at public venues i.e.

- Casteel Thusong Service Centre
- Tribal Offices of Moreipuso and Setlhare
- Mission Faith Church in Dingley Dale

The BID is available in English, Sepedi, Xitsonga and Sesotho and can also be downloaded from the Naledzi website: [www.naledzi.co.za/publicdocuments](http://www.naledzi.co.za/publicdocuments).

Community members can drop their comments in the ‘Suggestion Box’ or email Naledzi the completed

Registration and comment forms or submit the completed forms after the public meeting. Two public meetings were scheduled for the project on 25 and 26 October 2022 to address the community of Casteel and downstream water users.

Once the comment period lapsed the EAP would prepare the draft BAR and EMPR informed by the specialist and public inputs and release it for 30 days of public review and comment during January 2023 as part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of public consultation. Another round of public meetings will take place to discuss the findings of the reports/ study.

<b>1.6</b>	<b>Project Schedule</b>	<b>Presenter</b>	<b>M Botha (Naledzi)</b>
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Phase	Time Frame	Period
BA process	18 months	Done by <b>Nov 2023</b>
Contractor Procurement	6 months	Dec 2023 to <b>May 2024</b>
Construction Period	24 months	June <b>2024</b> to <b>May 2026</b>

<b>1.7</b>	<b>Discussion Session</b>	<b>All</b>
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1.7.1	<p><b>Comments by Nkateko Mazhaka (DARDLEA, Environmental Advisor)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) We are pleased to hear that there will be no water supply interruptions to downstream water users during the rehabilitation works since the farmers depend on the water for irrigation.</li> <li>(b) We are also grateful to the EAP for providing us with the project timeframes allowing farmers to plan i.e. when to plant and when to avoid.</li> </ul>
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1.7.2	<p><b>Question by Sipho Wonder Shay</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) It is stated in the presentation that approximately 70 unskilled people would be required to work on the project. Which group of people will be employed?</li> <li>(b) How will the construction unfold to avoid interruptions?</li> <li>(c) How will the farmers be impacted during the two (2) year construction period?</li> </ul>
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**Response by M Botha (Naledzi)**  
Farmers would not be impacted during the construction period, since water will still be released downstream.

**Response by Jethro Monareng (DWS, Stakeholder Management)**

- (a) The DWS would engage the community and have discussions with Bushbuckridge Local Municipality, the ward councillors and tribal councils to form a steering committee. The traditional councils would therefore guide the DWS. Within the established steering committee an amicable agreement would be reached on employment and from where it should be sourced. The steering committee would be fully represented by all structures.
- (b) As per above.

**Please also see the below post-meeting note by the DWS: SIAM dated 14 November 2022 (SEE ANNEXURE C – DWS Statement):**  
The number of job opportunities created by the project will be determined and communicated during the tender stage which will commence after the conclusion of the current Basic Assessment process. Local labour will be sourced from communities identified by the project steering committee (PSC) in consultation with political principals, and traditional councils. Local authority and 'a stakeholder committee' in its entirety.

	<p><b>Response by Rodney Siwelane (DWS, SIAM)</b></p> <p>(c) Casteel Dam currently has a large extended pipe releasing water downstream to irrigation users since the outlet works are not functioning correctly. The same measure would be followed during construction. Once the rehabilitation works are done, DWS will stop the temporary measure and the outlet works would continue to release water as usual.</p>
1.7.3	<p><b>Comment by Daniel Selowe (Chairman, Champagne Citrus Board)</b></p> <p>(a) Participants must be patient since the steering committee must still be formed. We should not make assumptions at this stage of the project (i.e. planning phase). Let us wait until the steering committee is formed to strike a balance on who should be employed. Both Casteel and the communities downstream would want to participate.</p>
1.7.4	<p><b>Question by Sam Setlale (Chochocho)</b></p> <p>We are very grateful for the rehabilitation project. Will the valve releasing water to Chochocho also be repaired?</p>
	<p><b>Response by Rodney Siwelane (DWS: SIAM)</b></p> <p>Yes. The dam safety evaluation showed that the pipe inside the dam intake tower, releasing water downstream needs to be repaired and replaced including the associated valves.</p>
1.7.5	<p><b>Bettie Makubela (Champagne CPA Forum)</b></p> <p>The dam is known as Casteel Dam, not Ga-Josefa and thanks to the DWS for proposing to rehabilitate the dam. The dam should be fenced and monitored by a local security company and the pathways should be properly paved for the community to use the area for recreational purposes. The community and local fishermen must still have access after the dam is fenced off.</p>
	<p><b>Response by M Botha (Naledzi)</b></p> <p>The request would be contradictory to your ambitions for the dam. Once fenced off and security controlled the dam would not be as easily assessable for community members, local fishermen and locals wanting to walk through the dam site between settlements etc. It would restrict access, thoroughfare and fishing.</p>
	<p><b>Response by Rodney Siwelane (DWS: SIAM)</b></p> <p>The DWS is not in the tradition to fence off its dams and would restrict community access to the dam i.e. fishing rights, recreational use, thoroughfare etc.</p>
	<p><b>Please also see the below post-meeting note by the DWS: SIAM dated 14 November 2022 (SEE ANNEXURE C – DWS Statement):</b></p> <p>The DWS confirms that a detailed analysis to establish the viability of installing a fence and appointing a local security company is required. Since this process will require time and independent consultation it is requested that this issue be treated outside this BA process to avoid the creation of delays. A comprehensive response to this request will be provided by DWS at the beginning of the tender stage.</p>
1.7.6	<p><b>Comments by Ernest Selowe</b></p> <p>We welcome the project and thank Naledzi for the presentation. It is noted that the Bushbuckridge Local Municipality is present. Although it is indicated to be a small project it is a 'cross ward' project overlapping wards 22, 16, 32 and 14 which span the traditional councils of Moreipuso and Setlhare.</p> <p>The direct beneficiaries of the water supply are at the meeting. Our people must benefit from the project. The Bushbuckridge Local Municipality, Water and Sanitation must be the custodian and there must be no interruptions when the project starts.</p>

	<p><b>Response by M Botha (Naledzi)</b></p> <p>Noted. All the mentioned stakeholders have been informed of the project and engaged through several meetings i.e. introductory meetings including a public meeting at Casteel Thusong Centre on 25 October 2022. As previously explained by Jethro Monareng (DWS, Stakeholder Management) a steering committee will be established with full representation from all the structures. Within the established steering committee an amicable agreement would be reached on employment and from where it should be sourced.</p> <p><b>Response from Jethro Monareng (DWS, Stakeholder Management)</b></p> <p>Once the project is approved by the DFFE, the DWS wants to take the leadership from the Bushbuckridge Local Municipality and representatives from the moshate (ruling house) for a site inspection of Casteel Dam and explain the project and location of rehabilitation works, thereafter set up the steering committee.</p> <p><b>Response by M Botha (Naledzi)</b></p> <p>Naledzi has already conducted such a site inspection with the Bushbuckridge Local Municipality on 25 October 2022 for the BA process. The site inspection proposed by Mr Monareng is a site inspection that would be arranged by DWS outside the BA process with such stakeholders. The EAP needs to manage expectations from the community in terms of who is undertaking to conduct what engagements and for what purposes.</p>		
1.7.7	<p><b>Question by Daniel Selowe (Chairman, Champagne Citrus Board)</b></p> <p>What would be the total value of the project?</p>		
	<p><b>Response by Rodney Siwelane (DWS: SIAM)</b></p> <p>The issue of the project value must be reserved until the BA process is concluded. The DWS team is not able to confirm the project value at this stage.</p>		
<b>1.8</b>	<b>Way Forward and Closure</b>	<b>Presenter</b>	<b>Marissa Botha (NEC)</b>
	<p>The way forward was recapped. Naledzi would prepare the minutes of the meeting and make them available to participants via the municipality, tribal council offices, irrigation scheme chairpersons and local councillors. Opportunity is given until 15 November 2022 to register and submit comments in the ‘Suggestion Boxes’ available at the public venues alternatively can be emailed to Naledzi or handed to Naledzi after the public meeting.</p> <p>The BAR and EMPR will be prepared once the specialist studies have been completed and would be released in January 2023 for 30 days of public comment at the same public venues as the BID. Naledzi will announce this via newspaper advertisements and notifications to the tribal councillors and ward councillors and or SMS notifications to community members where contact numbers are available.</p> <p>Participants were thanked for their comments and the meeting was closed.</p>		

## 2. IDENTIFIED ACTION ITEMS

Action Item	Assigned	Completed
A project steering committee (PSC) is to be established in consultation with political principles, traditional councils, local authority and a stakeholders committee in its entirety.	Jethro Monareng, DWS, Stakeholder Management	To be communicated and determined during the tender stage once the BA process is concluded.
Establish viability of fence and appointment of the local security company to monitor Casteel Dam.	DWS	
Site inspection with leadership to explain the project and location of rehabilitation works, to set up the steering committee.	DWS, Stakeholder Management	

### 3. PHOTOGRAPHIC PROOF OF MEETING



**Figure 1: Public Meeting at Dingley Dale Faith Mission Church on 26 October 2022. Participants sitting in the front row seats.**



**Figure 2: Public meeting at Dingley Dale Faith Mission Church on 26 October 2022. Participants sitting at the back row seats.**



**Figure 3: Mr Daniel Selowe (Chairperson, Champagne Citrus Board to the right) asking questions with Mr Laudrick Selowe (translator) to the left.**



**Figure 4: DWS's Mr Rodney Siwelane (front left) responding to stakeholder questions.**



**Attachments:**

**Annexure A- Signed attendance register**

**Annexure B - PowerPoint Presentation**

**Annexure C – DWS statement**

ATTENDANCE REGISTER / NGWADIŠO YA GO TŠWA GO BA GONA

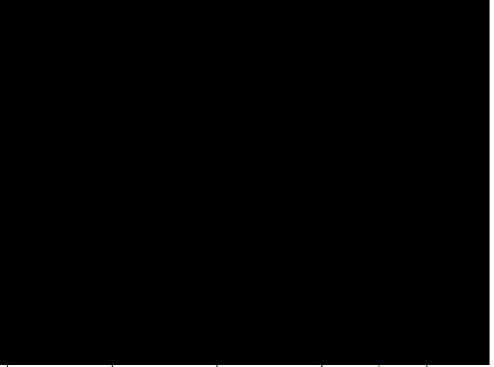

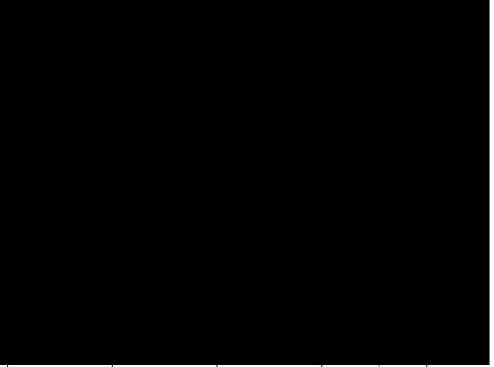

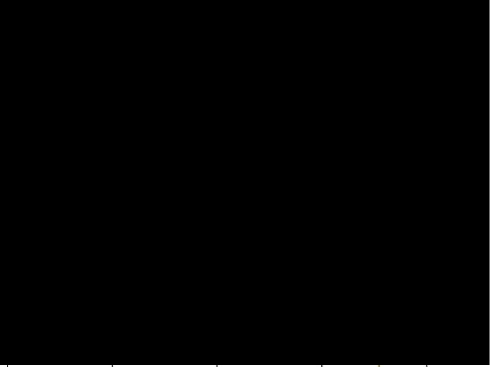
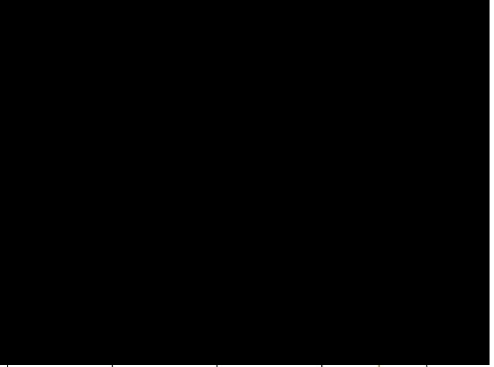
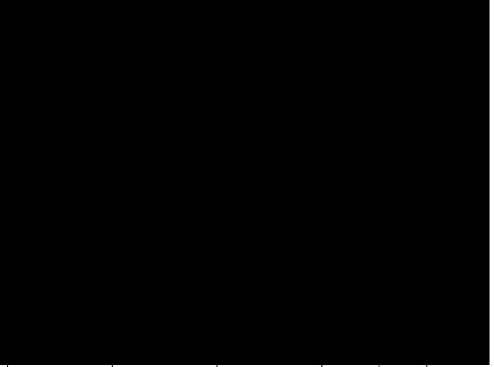

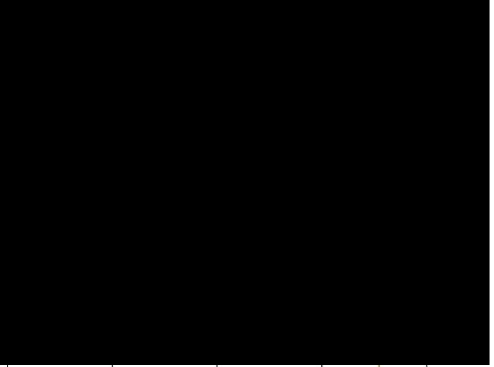
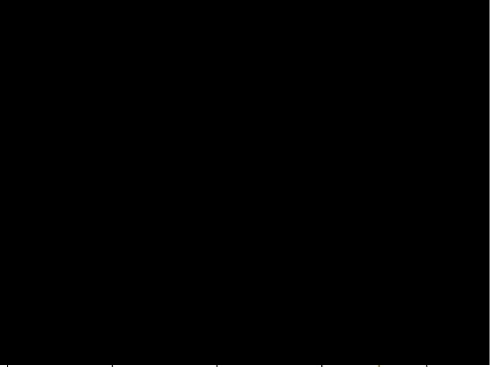
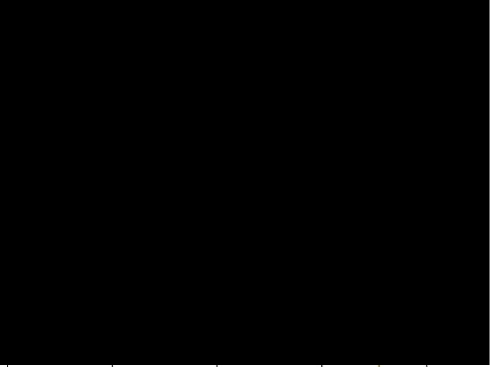
DOWNSTREAM WATER USERS PUBLIC MEETING/ KOPANO YA SETŠHABA YA BAŠOMIŠI BA METSI BA TLASE

PROPOSED CASTEL DAM SAFETY REHABILITATION PROJECT, BUSHBUCKRIDGE AREA, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

DATE: WEDNESDAY, 26 OCTOBER 2022      TIME: 09:00      VENUE: FAITH MISSION CHURCH, DINGLEYDALE

NAME AND SURNAME / LEINA LA MATHOMO SEFANE	ADDRESS / ORGANISATION / ATERESE / MOGATLO	CELLPHONE NUMBER NR YA SELEFOUNU:	EMAIL ATERESE YA IMELI:	SIGNATURE MOSAENO
Ms. Kuboys	Dingley Dal.	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	Ms Kuboys
David Qiboi	New Forest	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
BS Mashile	Dingleydale	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
H.T. MBEWE	DINGLEYDALE	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
AK Moshikane	Dingleydale DINS	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
S. Menaeng	Peteria	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]
Mkhato Mphahle	DINGLEYDALE	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	[Signature]



NAME AND SURNAME / LEINA LA MATHOMO SEFANE	ADDRESS / ORGANISATION / ATERESE / MOGATLO	CELLPHONE NUMBER NR YA SELEFOUNU:	EMAIL ATERESE YA IMEILI:	SIGNATURE MOSAENO
Pretty Sinda	Cusochochu		-	
Norman Matzgalita	Chochochu		-	
Marekutu Juy	Cusochochu		-	IMMERUWA
Moirane Lineth	Cusochochu		-	K-S Mosen
Simele Thembu	Chochochu		-	
				
				
				

ATTENDANCE REGISTER / NGWADIŠO YA GO TŠWA GO BA GONA

DOWNSTREAM WATER USERS PUBLIC MEETING/ KOPANO YA SETŠHABA YA BAŠOMIŠI BA METSI BA TLASE

PROPOSED CASTEEL DAM SAFETY REHABILITATION PROJECT, BUSHBUCKRIDGE AREA, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

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NAME AND SURNAME / LEINA LA MATHOMO SEFANE	ADDRESS / ORGANISATION / ATERESE / MOGATLO	CELLPHONE NUMBER NR YA SELEFOUNU:	EMAIL ATERESE YA IMEILI:	SIGNATURE MOSAENO
MARISSA BOTHA	NALEDZI ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
LAUDRICK SELOWE	FAITH BIBLE CHURCH	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
Msimamab Nusi	INTREKA DAM (DUS) Dam Controller	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
Bu SIKELANYI	DUS - METONGA	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
selowe dis	Chanyoagane	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
Malafix SM	Chaprese	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	
Mashibe BS	Dingledale	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]	

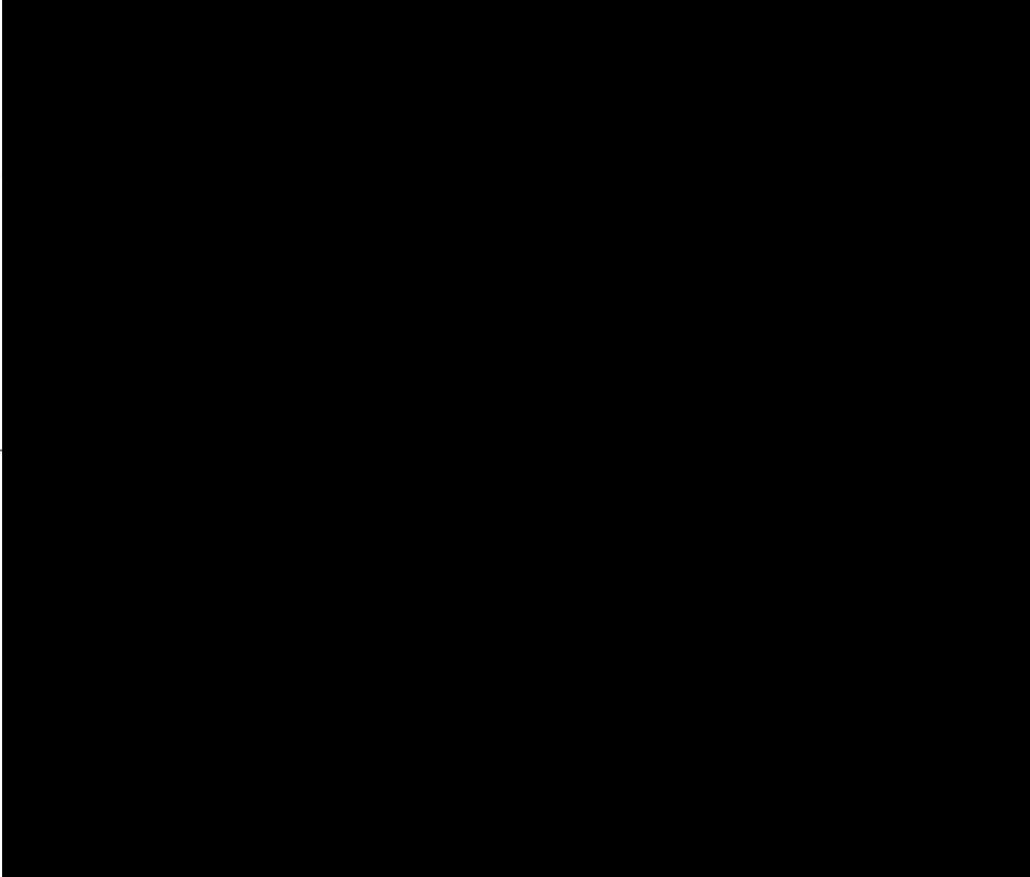
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DOWNSTREAM WATER USERS PUBLIC MEETING/KOPANO YA SETŠHABA YA BAŠOMIŠI BA METSIBA TLASE

PROPOSED CASTEEL DAM SAFETY REHABILITATION PROJECT, BUSHBUCKRIDGE AREA, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE

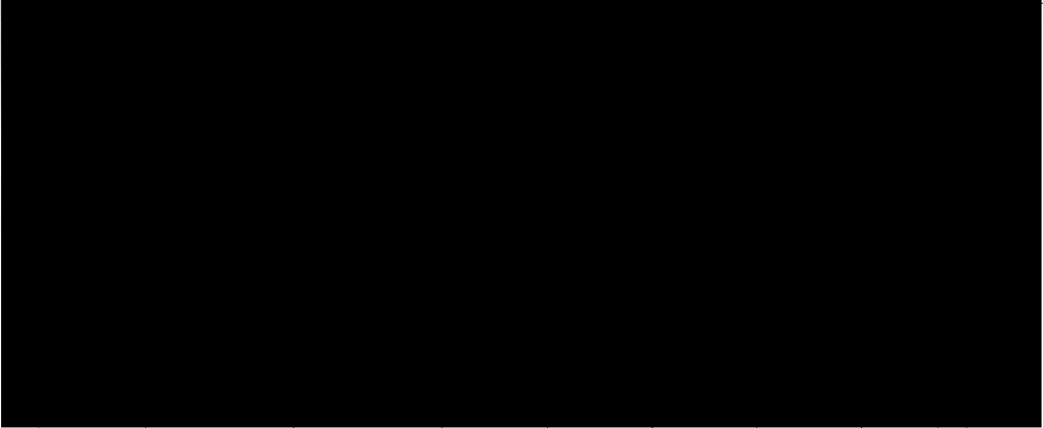
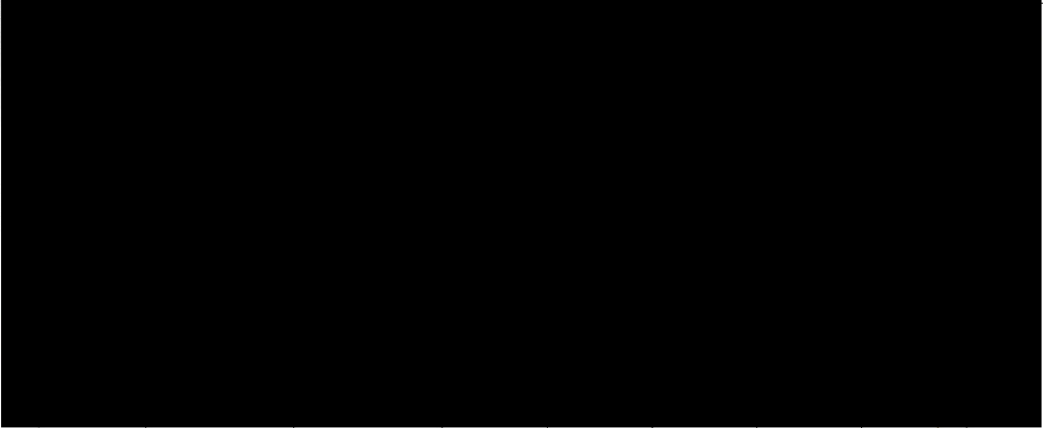

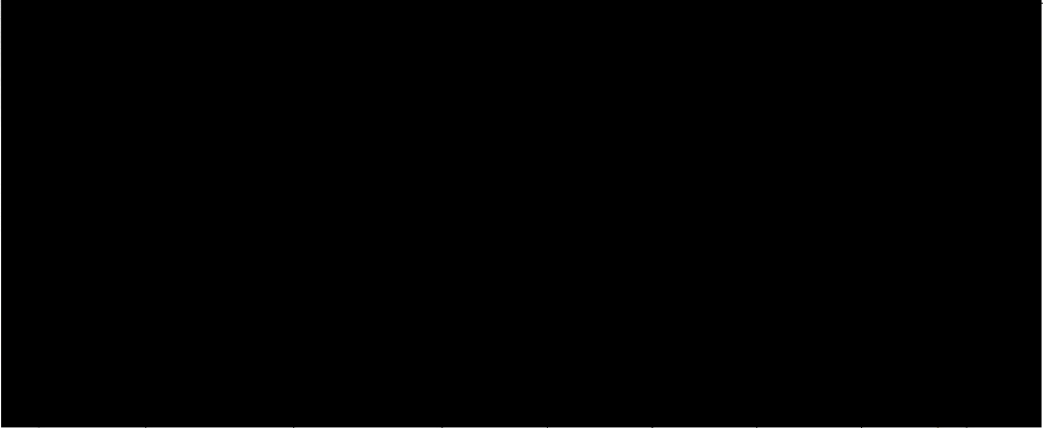

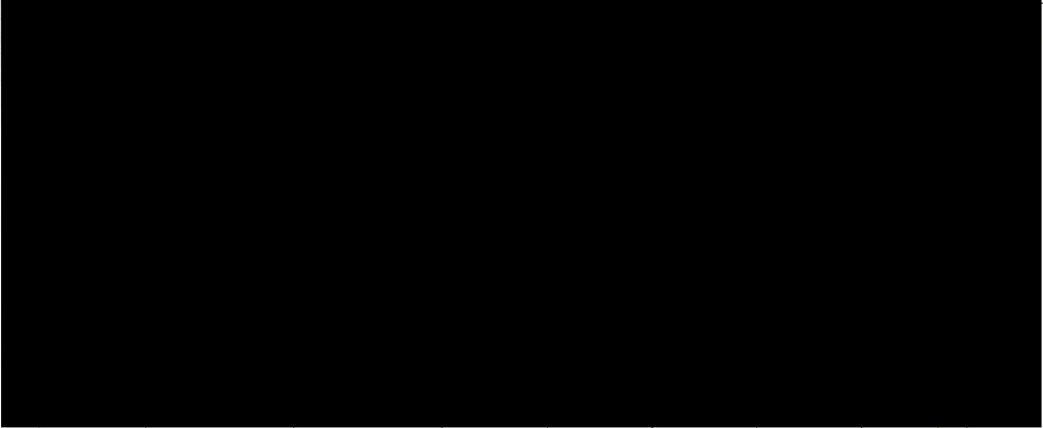

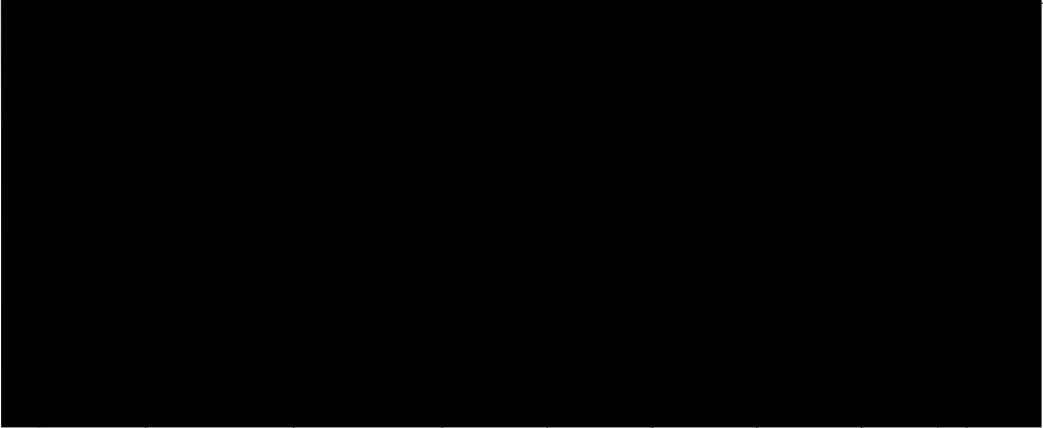
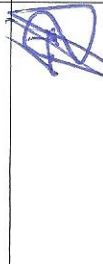
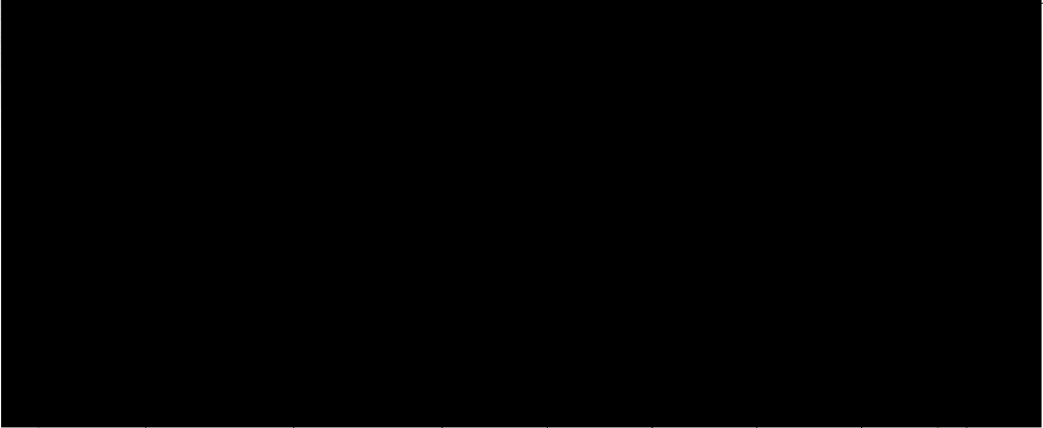

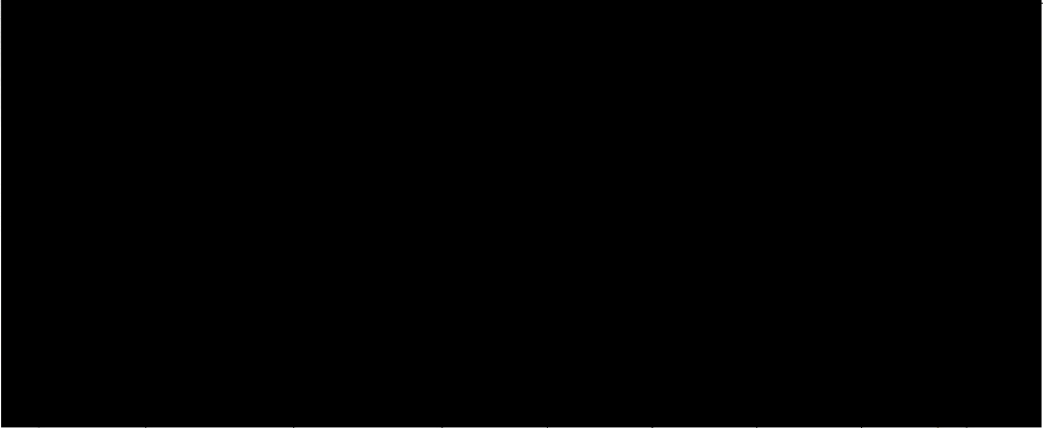

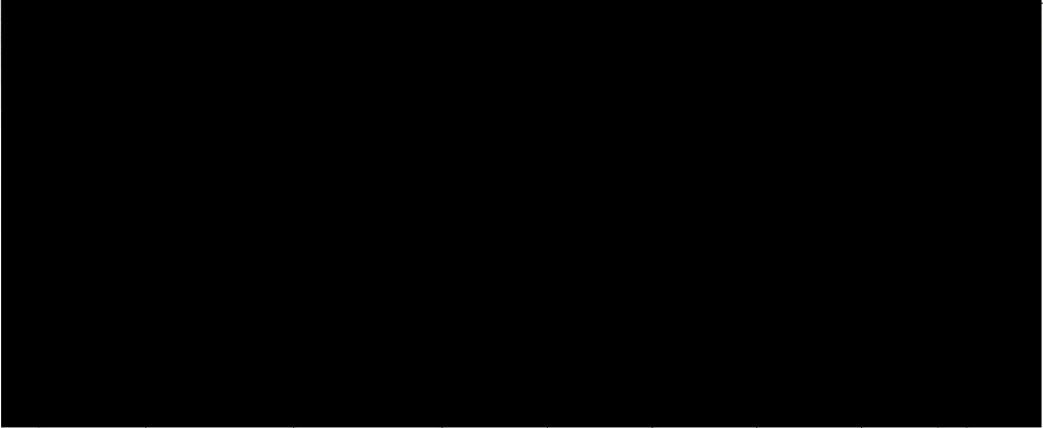

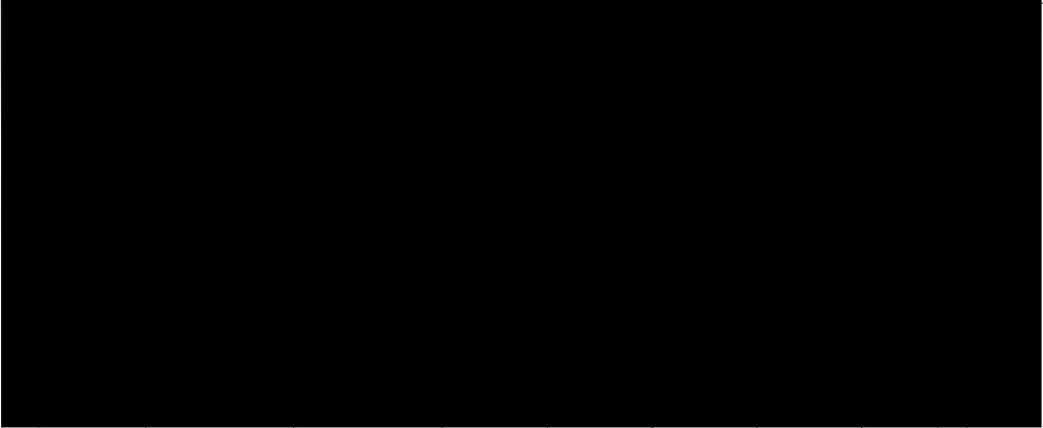

DATE: WEDNESDAY, 26 OCTOBER 2022      TIME: 09:00      VENUE: FAITH MISSION CHURCH, DINGLEYDALE

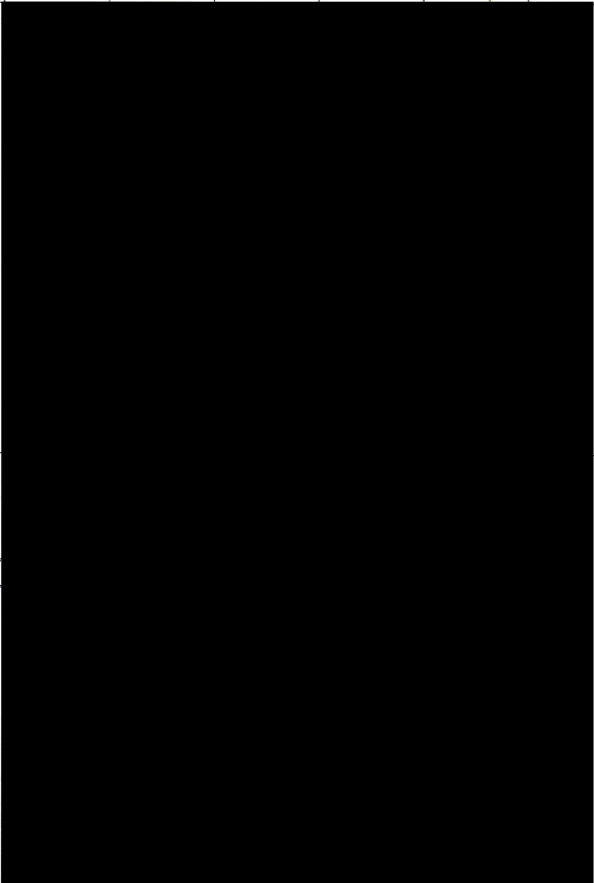
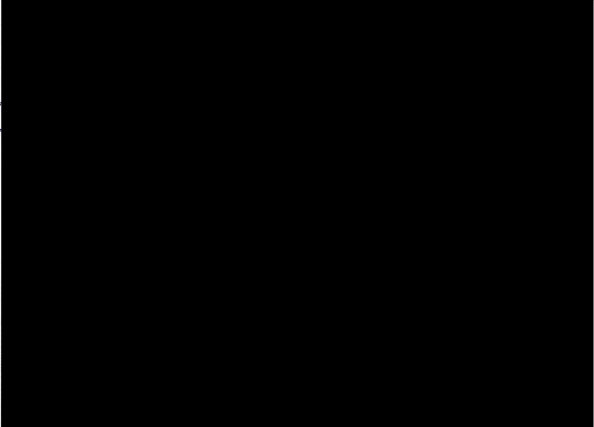
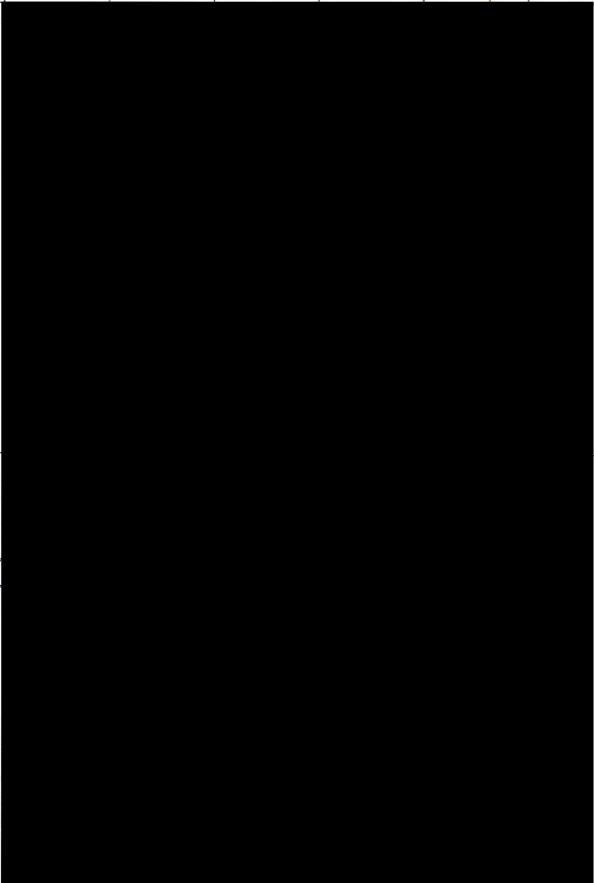
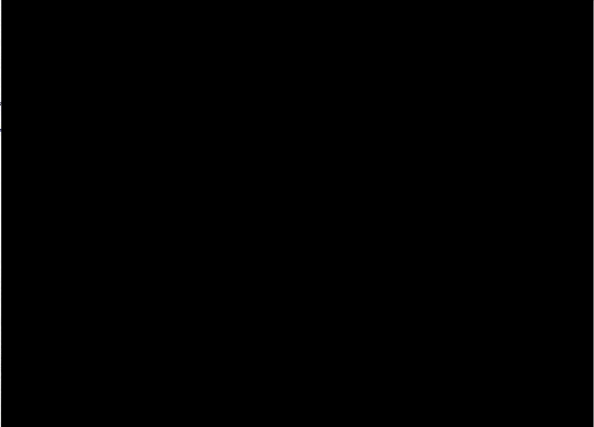
NAME AND SURNAME / LEINA LA MATHOMO SEFANE	ADDRESS / ORGANISATION / ATERESE / MOGATLO	CELLPHONE NUMBER NR YA SELEFOUNU:	EMAIL ATERESE YA IMELI:	SIGNATURE MOSAENO
Robert Obisi	Chaparras	[REDACTED]	-	
Moses Mkhooza	Chaparras	[REDACTED]	-	M. Mkhooza
Dorcas Molele	Chaparras	[REDACTED]	-	D. Molele
Bergson Mashup		[REDACTED]		
Elnah Clivose		[REDACTED]		
Thosie Mepemani	B2M	[REDACTED]		
Petrus Mavri	C.P.F	[REDACTED]		

NAME AND SURNAME / LEINA LA MATHOMO SEFANE	ADDRESS / ORGANISATION / ATERESE / MOGATLO	CELLPHONE NUMBER NR YA SELEFOUNU:	EMAIL ATERESE YA IMEILI:	SIGNATURE MOSAENO
Rehuel Choza	Chochocho			R. Khoroa
Eunice Mathonsi	Chochocho			E. Mathonsi
Sese Mame	Cho Cho Co			Sese Mame
M H Mkhala	Blm			M H Mkhala
Roo Mphahleke	Bum			Roo Mphahleke
Nyiko Nkwinko	chochocho			Nyiko Nkwinko
Seneel Khoso	Casteel			Seneel Khoso
Yeneia Phiri	Chochocho			Yeneia Phiri
Deborah Mafatso	Burfelsmoek			Deborah Mafatso

NAME AND SURNAME / LEINA LA MATHOMO SEFANE	ADDRESS / ORGANISATION / ATERESE / MOGATLO	CELLPHONE NUMBER NR YA SELEFOUNU:	EMAIL ATERESE YA IMELLI:	SIGNATURE MOSAENO
Bouley Mogepe	Shochocho Serafina			
Linyeh Moane	chochocho CPF			Aso
FREDERICE CHUDANE	MOBETHISO T/APPAINS			
Melita malele	chochocho			me
Naiba marula	chochocho			N.M
Hennie malele	chochocho			Lim
Selouze Enas	SINCO			
Sepheng Mosweny	BOS			



NAME AND SURNAME / LEINA LA MATHOMO SEFANE	ADDRESS / ORGANISATION / ATERESE / MOGATLO	CELLPHONE NUMBER NR YA SELEFOUNU:	EMAIL ATERESE YA IMELI:	SIGNATURE MOSAENO
MABO V MASUVE	D DALLA Dingledale Street			MH MASUVE
Kanyozo Dikome	Famer			
Sonsou Glacie	Bolong			
Ntshadletisi	Champagne			
Maelima Dena	Dipole			
Masasi Savae	Cuo			
Tebogo m'isi	Dingledale			
Tama Mathelula	Dingledale			
Carolina Masasa	Dingledale			

NAME AND SURNAME / LEINA LA MATHOMO SEFANE	ADDRESS / ORGANISATION / ATERESE / MOGATLO	CELLPHONE NUMBER NR YA SELEFOUNU:	EMAIL ATERESE YA IMELLI:	SIGNATURE MOSAENO
Sorel Molasego	Dingeydare			S. Molasego
Bob Hmpuswe	Dandiena			Bob
Sam Settale	chochocho			Sam
Alashlega M.N	chochocho			Alashlega
Thebe Joseph	Chasler			Thebe
Mahlanya Sphen	Dingeydare impepit seera			Mahlanya

# **BASIC ASSESSMENT PROCESS**

PROPOSED KASTEEL DAM SAFETY REHABILITATION PROJECT,  
FARM KASTEEL 231-KU, CASTEEL, BUSHBUCKRIDGE LOCAL  
MUNICIPALITY, EHLANZENI DISTRICT, MPU

## **PUBLIC MEETING FOR DOWNSTREAM WATER USERS**

**26 OCTOBER 2022, 9 am**

Faith Mission Church, Dingleydale



# Agenda

1. Introductions and opening prayer, translator (Sepedi, Xitsonga)
2. Background
3. Project Overview
4. Construction Details
5. BA Process (listed activities, process, timeframe)
6. Potential Impacts and Specialist Studies
7. Discussion Session
8. Way Forward and Closure

## Introductions



**Applicant:** Directorate: Strategic Infrastructure Asset Management



Independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP)

# Background

- ❑ DWS: SIAM custodian of all department dams and in charge of dam safety.
- ❑ Dam safety is achieved through 2 tools:

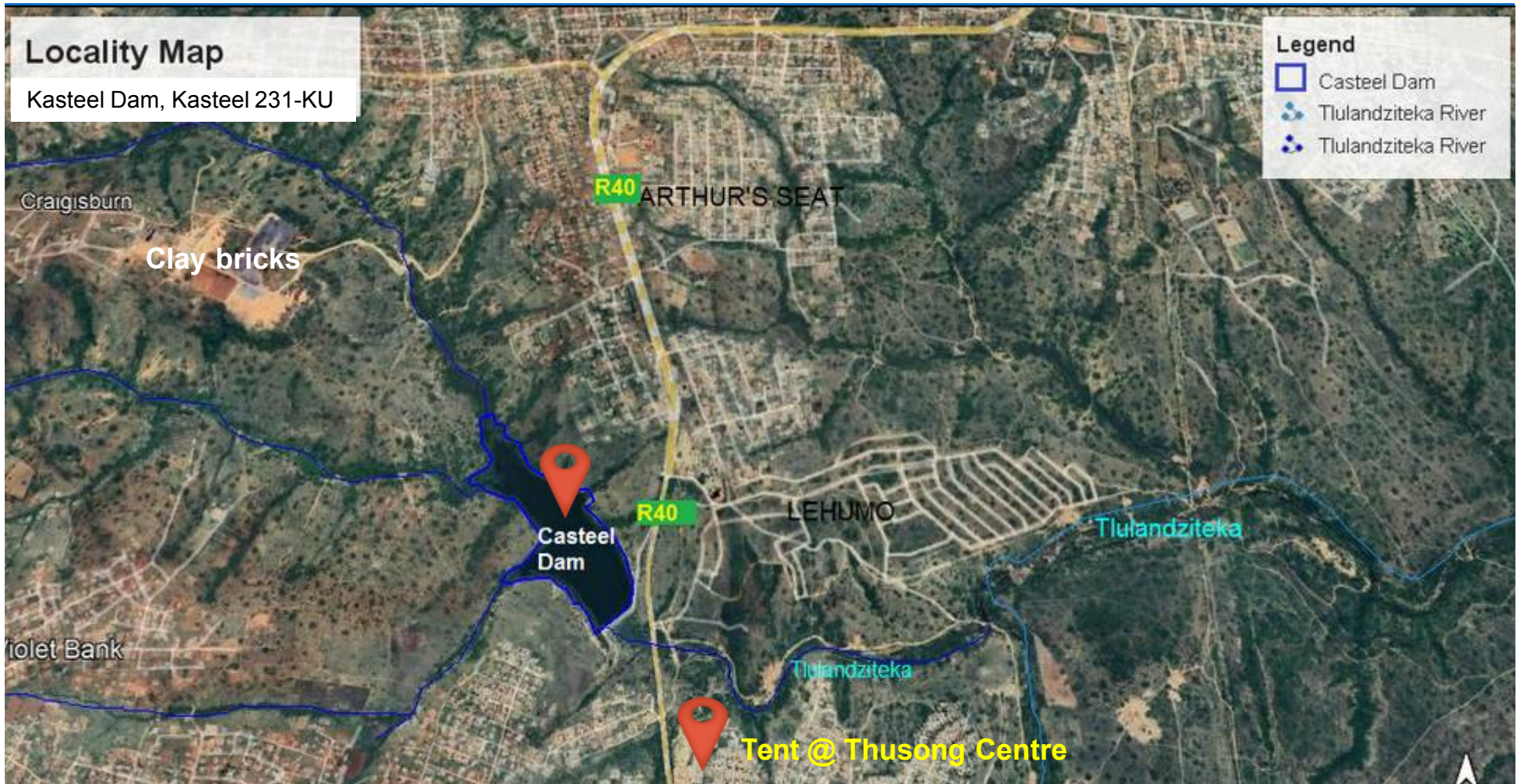


1. DWS Dam Safety Evaluations (DSE)



2. Dam Safety Rehabilitation Programme (DSRP)

- ❑ All DWS dams undergo a DSE every 5 years to identify any safety risks.
- ❑ Dams with defects are placed on DSRP for repair.
- ❑ 2015 DSE @ Kasteel Dam identified several risks i.e.
  - Slope on downstream dam wall is unstable
  - Dam seepage
  - Eroded gully further downstream of the spillway channel
  - Outlet works are non-functional
- ❑ @ Kasteel Dam locals fish and it supplies irrigation water to farmers downstream.
- ❑ **DWS:SIAM proposes to conduct scheduled rehabilitation works at Kasteel dam to address the defects.**



Casteel Dam	Description
Type	Medium-sized earth-fill embankment dam (Cat. II Significant Hazard Potential)
Capacity	1.18 million m3
Surface Area	16 Ha (Dam wall height 16.6m; Crest of 255m in length)
Spillway	Sharp Crested weir on right flank and outlet works (125m3/s)
Purpose	Built in 1965 to supply irrigation water to the rural community

# Risks Identified @ Kasteel Dam

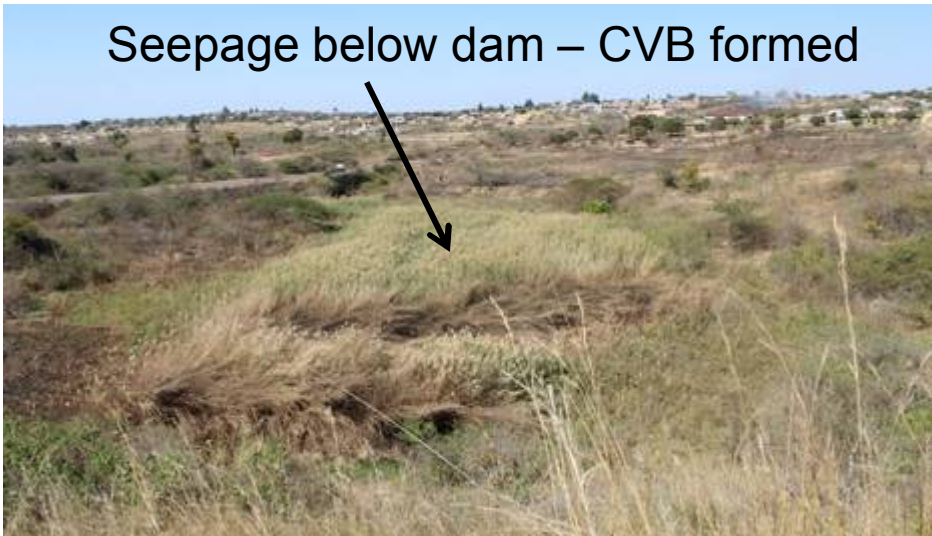
Steep downstream slope of dam  
- Rotational failure



Spillway channel cant handle RMF



Seepage below dam – CVB formed



Large donga below spillway





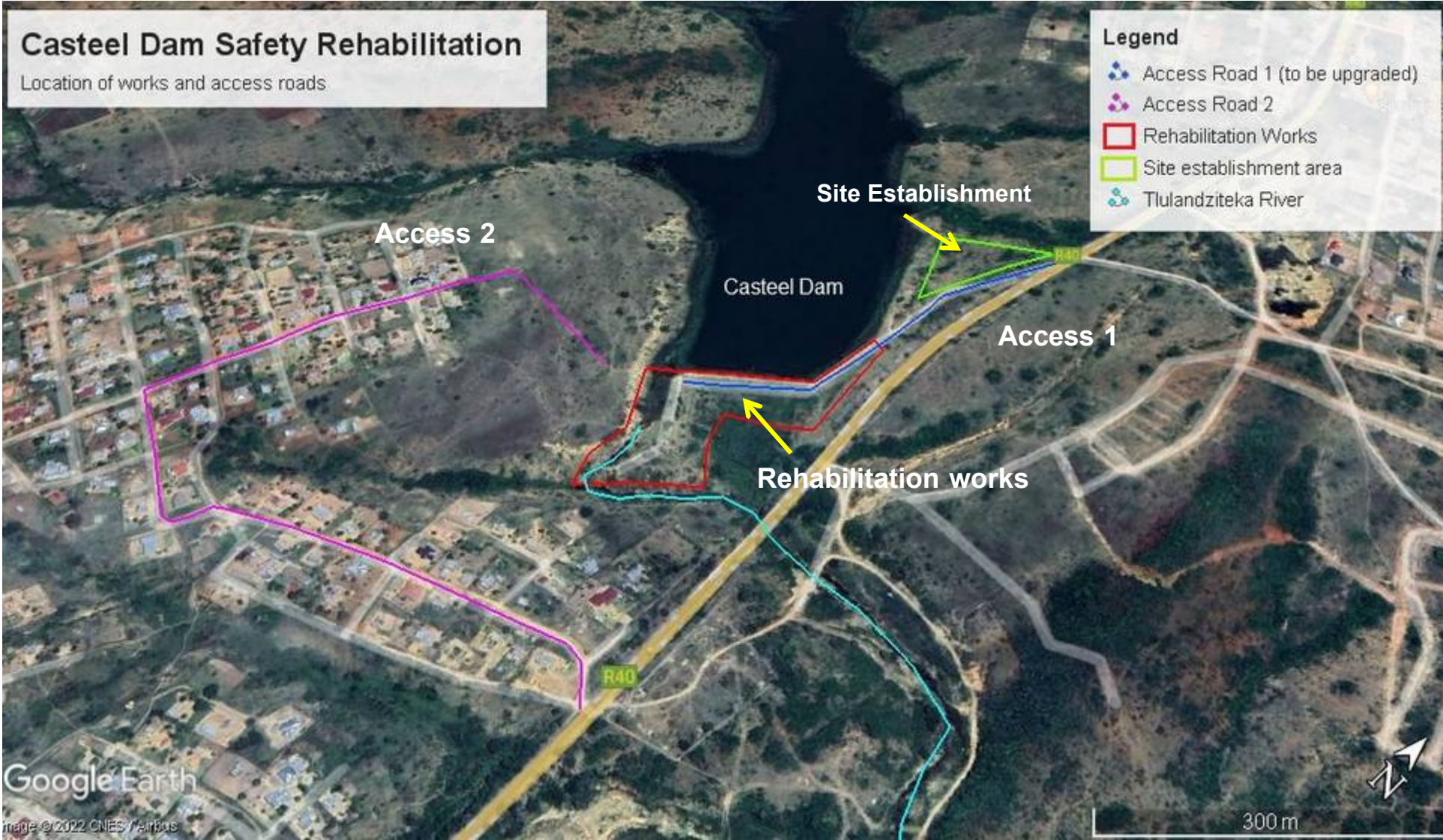
## Rehabilitation Works to be done ?

- (1) 2.85 ha Rehabilitation works @ main dam embankment, spillway and outlet works**
- (2) 0.9 ha Temporary Site office area**
- (3) Upgrade and realign existing access road to the dam**
- (4) Use a 2<sup>nd</sup> access road during construction to access spillway section at the dam.**

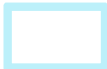



**Dam capacity will NOT be expanded/increased**

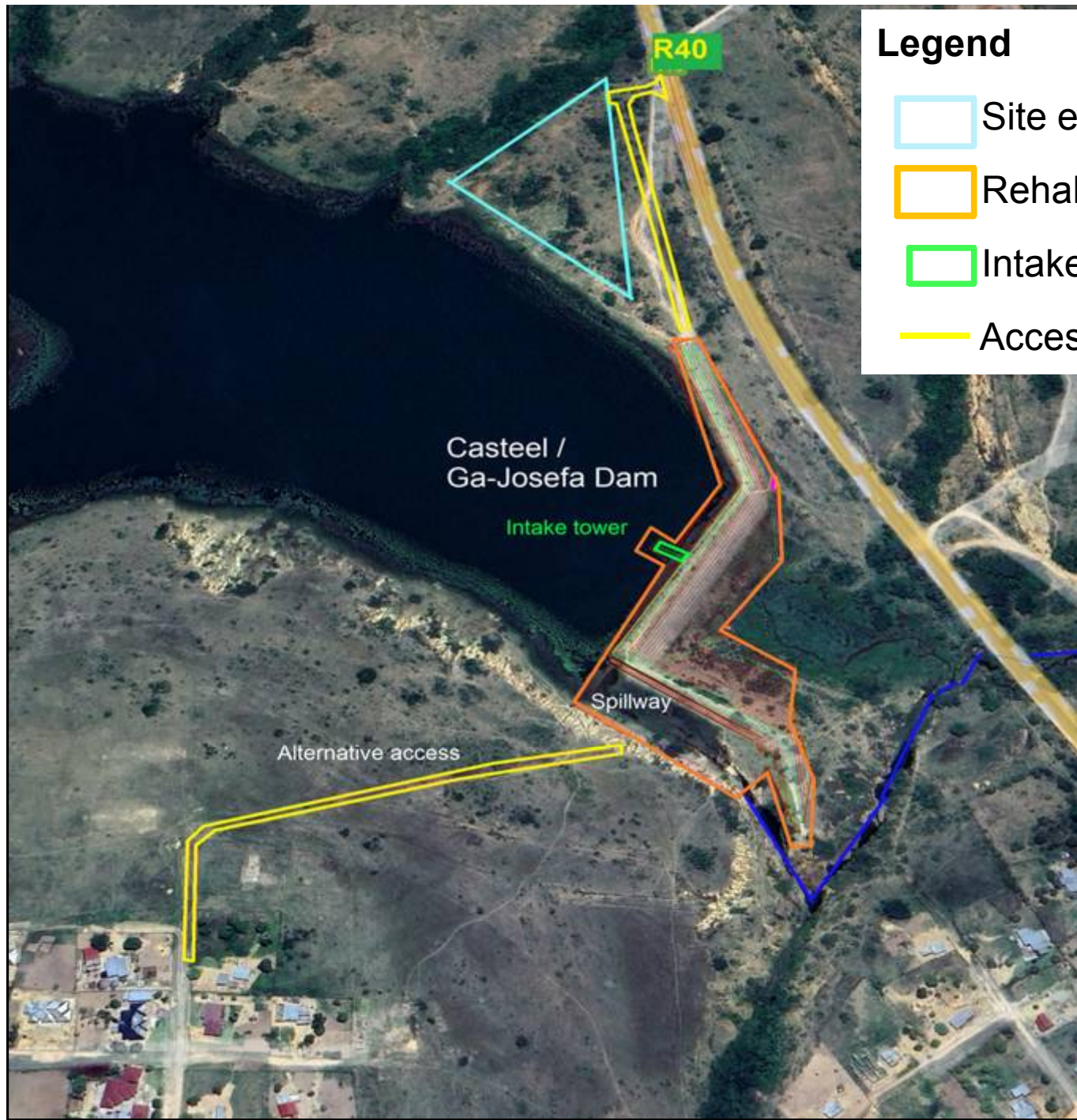


# Locality of Works



## Legend

-  Site establishment area
-  Rehabilitation Works area
-  Intake tower
-  Access roads



# What about the farmers downstream and jobs?



## Downstream farmers

- Water will still be released to downstream users
- Existing outlet pipes @ dam will always available to release water downstream to farmers.



## Who will do the job?

- ❑ DWS Chief Directorate: Construction Management
- ❑ DWS to use own skilled labour,
- ❑ Unskilled labour sourced from community (max 70 jobs)
- ❑ No borrow pit. Material will be sourced from local licensed commercial quarry.

# What does the LAW say?



DWS must obtain **Environmental Authorisation** from



forestry, fisheries  
& the environment

Department:  
Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

in terms of **National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998)** and 2017 Environmental Impact Assessment (**EIA**) Regulations

# Legal Requirements

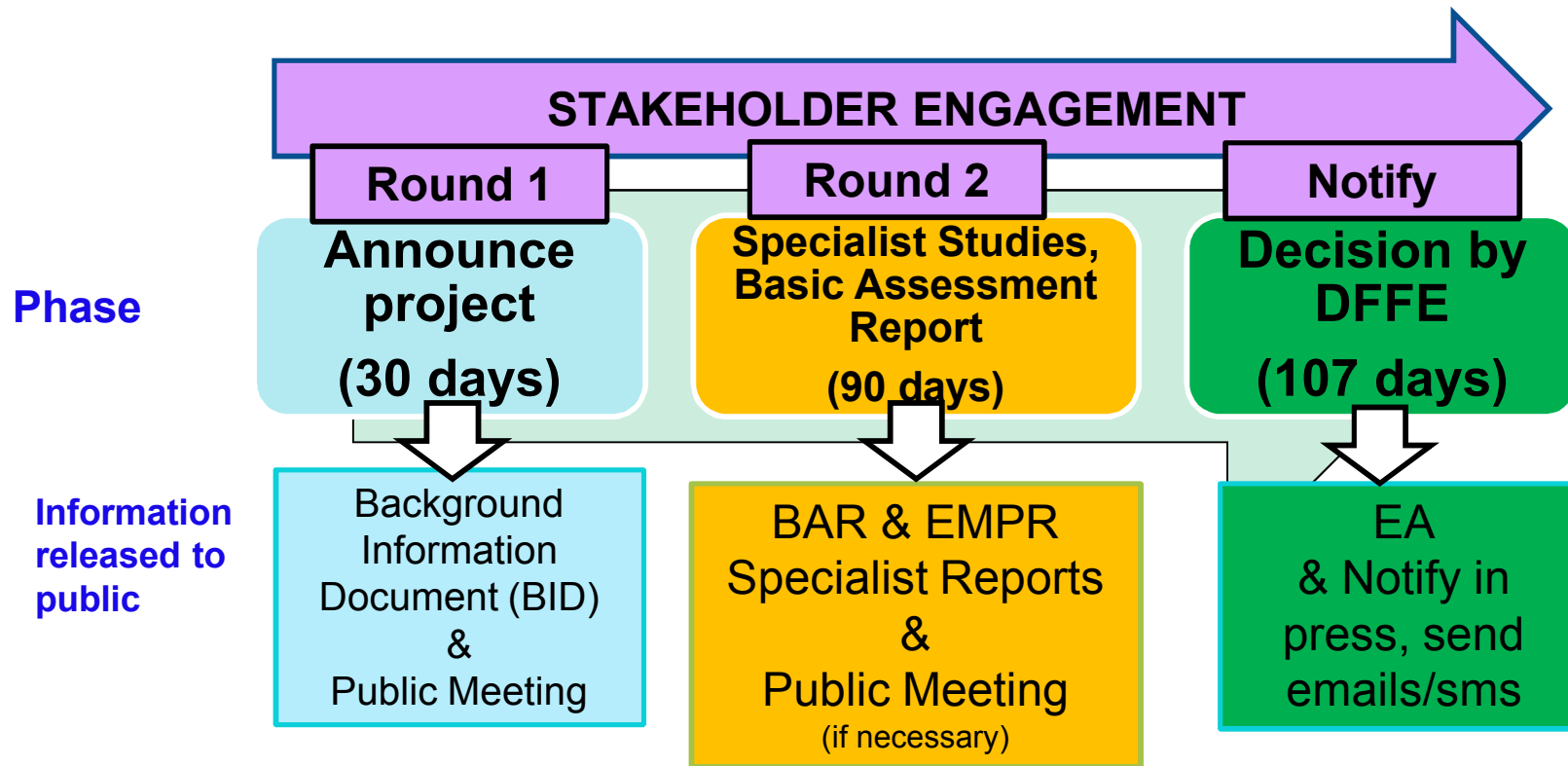
**Before DWS can start rehabilitation it must:**

- **Obtain Environmental authorisation (EA)**
- For triggered listed activities scheduled in the EIA Regulations 2014 published under NEMA.

**How does this application work?**

- Submit Application for Environmental Authorisation to DFFE
- Conduct an **Basic Assessment (BA) Process & Public Consultation**
- **Done by Independent EAP** for DWS
- Conducted in line with **NEMA EIA Regulations 2014 (as amended in 2017)**
- **DFFE consider application, reporting & public inputs, then issue EA**

# Basic Assessment Process



- Process Period = 197 days
- Round 1 (**now**) - Public has 30 days to comment on BID until 15 Nov 2022
- Round 2 - Public has 30 days to comment on BAR, EMPR, Specialist Studies (to be released in January 2023)

# Purpose of BA process

- Inform the DFFE and public of:
  - **Environmental consequences** of project offered in a **Basic Assessment Report (BAR)**
  - **Recommend management measures** which DWS must observe to minimise impacts to acceptable levels in an **Environmental Management Programme (EMPR)**
  - BAR and EMPR informed by field investigations, **specialist studies** and public inputs (such as today's meeting).

# SPECIALIST INPUTS REQUIRED

Studies	Why?
Terrestrial Biodiversity	Indigenous vegetation onsite and protected species (Marula, Aloes) Vegetation however show high level of disturbance
Aquatic Biodiversity	Presence of CVB wetland, dam and river
Traffic Impact Assessment	Construction traffic generated at two points on the R40 which includes delivery of construction material from a commercial quarry over a 24 month period.
Heritage Study	To determine if there are any heritage or cultural resources in the project footprint areas that may be affected. Any religious /rituals of community at dam to be considered!



# Public Participation

- ❑ Published advert in Bushbuckridge News
- ❑ Placed site notices onsite and in communal areas
- ❑ BID is currently available for 30 days registration and comment until 15 November 2022. BID available @ three public venues
  - ❑ Thusong Service Centre
  - ❑ Tribal Offices of Moreipiso
  - ❑ Tribal Offices of Sethlare
- ❑ Its available in English, Sepedi, Xitsonga and Sesotho.
- ❑ Drop you comments in the 'Suggestion Box' or email to Naledzi by filling in the Registration and Comment Forms
- ❑ Hosting 2 public meetings i.e. Casteel Thusong Center and 26 October at Faith Mission Church in Dingleydale.
- ❑ The community also welcome to fill in the forms available at the meetings and give to Naledzi after the meeting.

# Project Schedule



Phase	Time Frame	Period
BA process	18 months	Done by <b>Nov 2023</b>
Contractor Procurement	6 months	Dec 2023 to <b>May 2024</b>
Construction Period	24 months	June <b>2024</b> to May <b>2026</b>

# Way Forward

- ❑ Prepare, distribute and finalise the minutes of the public meeting
- ❑ Send to tribal councils and local councillors
- ❑ Allow I&APs to register and comment on project until 15 November 2022
- ❑ Can submit comments here at meeting, on comments sheets
- ❑ Complete forms at public venues and drop in suggestions box
- ❑ Next prepare Basic Assessment Report and make available for 30 days comment at same public venues as BID. Naledzi will announce this once ready.

# Environmental Assessment Practitioner



Unit 112, the Office Park, Schoeman  
Street, Polokwane, 0699



**Desmond Musetsho /  
Marissa Botha / Thendo Matsenene**



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[botham@naledzi.co.za](mailto:botham@naledzi.co.za)



[www.naledzi.co.za](http://www.naledzi.co.za)



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Enquiries: RW Siwelani  
Telephone: 012 336 7077  
Reference: 20/2/X302-26/D/1/22/PP1

Naledzi Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd  
Unit 112, the Office Park, Erf 352, Schoeman Street  
Polokwane  
0699  
South Africa

14 November 2022

### **RE: DWS RESPONSE TO Issues raised during PUBLIC PARTICIPATION for the REHABILITATION OF CASTEEL DAM**

ATT: M Botha and D Musetsho

The public participation meetings held on 25 and 26 October 2022 at Thusong Service Centre and Faith Mission Church in Dingleydale and your email dated 02 November 2022 bear reference. During the consultations the following issues were raise:

- a) How many jobs will be created and which communities will benefit from it?
- b) Dam upstream from Casteel also to be rehabilitated
- c) Dam should be fenced and monitored by local security company

Our comments or response are/is as follows:

#### 1. Number of Jobs and Communities

Number of job opportunities created by the project will be determined and communicated during the tender stage which will commence after the conclusion of the current Basic Assessment process. Local labourers will be sourced from communities identified by the project steering committee (PSC) in consultation with political principals, traditional councils, local municipality and 'stakeholder community in it's entirety.

#### 2. Repair of upstream dam

Officials from the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) and several community members who volunteered visited the dam on 25 October 2022. The dam is located on the

upstream of Casteel Dam as mentioned during the meeting and also in your email. The co-ordinates of the dam are as follows; Longitude: 30°58'27.41"E and Latitude: 24°40'25.85"S. The structure consist of an earthfill with an elevated concrete pipe culvert.

The crest of the "dam" is used as a road linking different villages. On the day of the site visit, severe surface erosion was identified around the culvert and it is more likely to results in "dam" failure should nothing be done to remedy the situation.

This dam is not registered with DWS and its ownership is unknown. Since the dam does not belong to the Department of Water and Sanitation it was concluded that Directorate: Strategic Infrastructure Asset Management (SIAM) does not have a legal mandate to spend funds on this structure, therefore, its rehabilitation will not form part of the rehabilitation of Casteel Dam.

The Department of Water and Sanitation has started a process of consulting Bushbuckridge Local Municipality concerning the ownership of this upstream dam and the possibility of the municipality repairing the road.

3. Installation of fence and security personnel.

A detail analysis to establish the viability of installing a fence and appointing a local security company is required. Since this process will require time and independent consultation it is requested that this issue be treated outside this BA process to avoid creation of delays. A comprehensive response to this request will be provided at the beginning of the tender stage.

Yours Sincerely



**ACTING DIRECTOR: STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE ASSET MANAGEMENT.**

**NAME: J.M KGOPI SO**