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Our Ref: 13/1/1

You're Ref:

Enq: E MATOPE

12 May 2023

**DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT,
CONSERVATION AND TOURISM (DEDACT)**
C/O University and Provident Road
MMABATHO
2735

Attention – To whom it may concern

**MOTIVATION TO EXPEDITE THE ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATION
APPLICATION FOR THE NEW OXIDATION POND SYSTEM IN IPELEGENG,
NORTH WEST**

Moedi Consulting Engineers have been appointed by the Dr Ruth S. Mompoti District Municipality (DRSDM) for the Augmentation of Bulk Sewer Infrastructure in Ipelegeng (Mamusa Local Municipality), North West. The aim of the aforementioned project is to optimise the wastewater system of Ipelegeng by decommissioning several pumping applications. The proposed scope of works comprises the installation of two outfall sewer lines as well as the construction of a New Oxidation Pond System. The purpose of the outfall sewers is to convey wastewater to the proposed new oxidation ponds that will result in the decommissioning of multiple pumping stations. As such, eliminating anthropogenic pollution associated with the Ipelegeng sewer pumping stations.

Prolonged sewer spillages at the pumping stations are a common occurrence due to the inconsistent operational status of the facilities being out of order for long periods. Furthermore, the location of the pumping stations entails that they are situated at topographically low points, in the vicinity of natural watercourses. This clearly poses a significant pollution risk both to the surrounding community as well as the environment. Attached to this letter are images illustrating the sewer spillages that is currently ongoing in Ipelegeng.

Various upgrading and refurbishment projects had been implemented in recent years at the sewer pumping stations located in Ipelegeng with limited success due to multiple operational challenges experienced. Criminal activities such as vandalism and theft and mechanical failure are the main contributors to poor operation of the pumping stations. Therefore, upgrading/ refurbishment of the said infrastructure will not be feasible as it will likely result in the same outcome in future.



The main objective of the proposed Oxidation Pond system is to decommission the unreliable sewer pumping stations and migrate to a more reliable organic treatment process that does not require any electrical or mechanical equipment that can be damaged or stolen.

The new system will eradicate ongoing spillages at pumping stations that has severely polluted the Harts River in recent years. The proposed Oxidation Pond system will consist of a series of Anaerobic, Aerobic and Maturation ponds within which wastewater is continuously allowed to flow from one pond to the next until the treated effluent is ultimately purified by an artificial wetland prior to discharging into the Harts River.

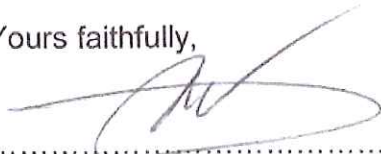
The proposed project has obtained funding from the Department of Water and Sanitation and is implementation ready. In order to implement the project and construct the proposed Oxidation Pond system, the appropriate application processes must be adhered to which includes an Environmental Authorisation and a Water Use License Application (WULA). Moedi appointed Enviroworks as an environmental sub-consultant to facilitate the mentioned process which is at an advanced stage.

Bearing in mind the urgency of the matter as well as the invariable pollution of the Harts River until successful construction of the pond system, it is formally requested that the Environmental Authorisation for the construction works is expedited.

We further request your formal permission to proceed with construction of the proposed outfall sewer lines and oxidation pond system whilst the official processes of the issuing of the WUL is concluded.

We trust that you will find the motivation in order and await your response.

Yours faithfully,



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ITUMELENG RONALD JONAS
MUNICIPAL MANAGER



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Annexure A

Locality

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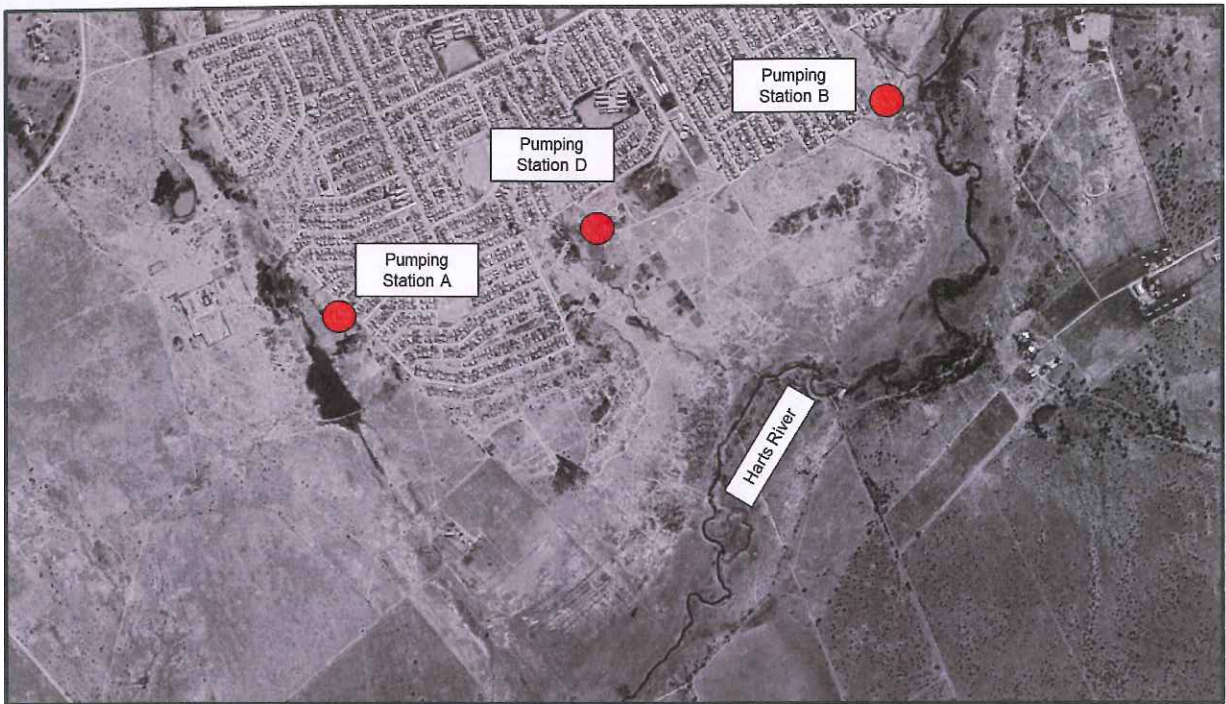


Figure 1: Layout of Sewer Pumping Stations in Relation to Harts River

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Annexure B

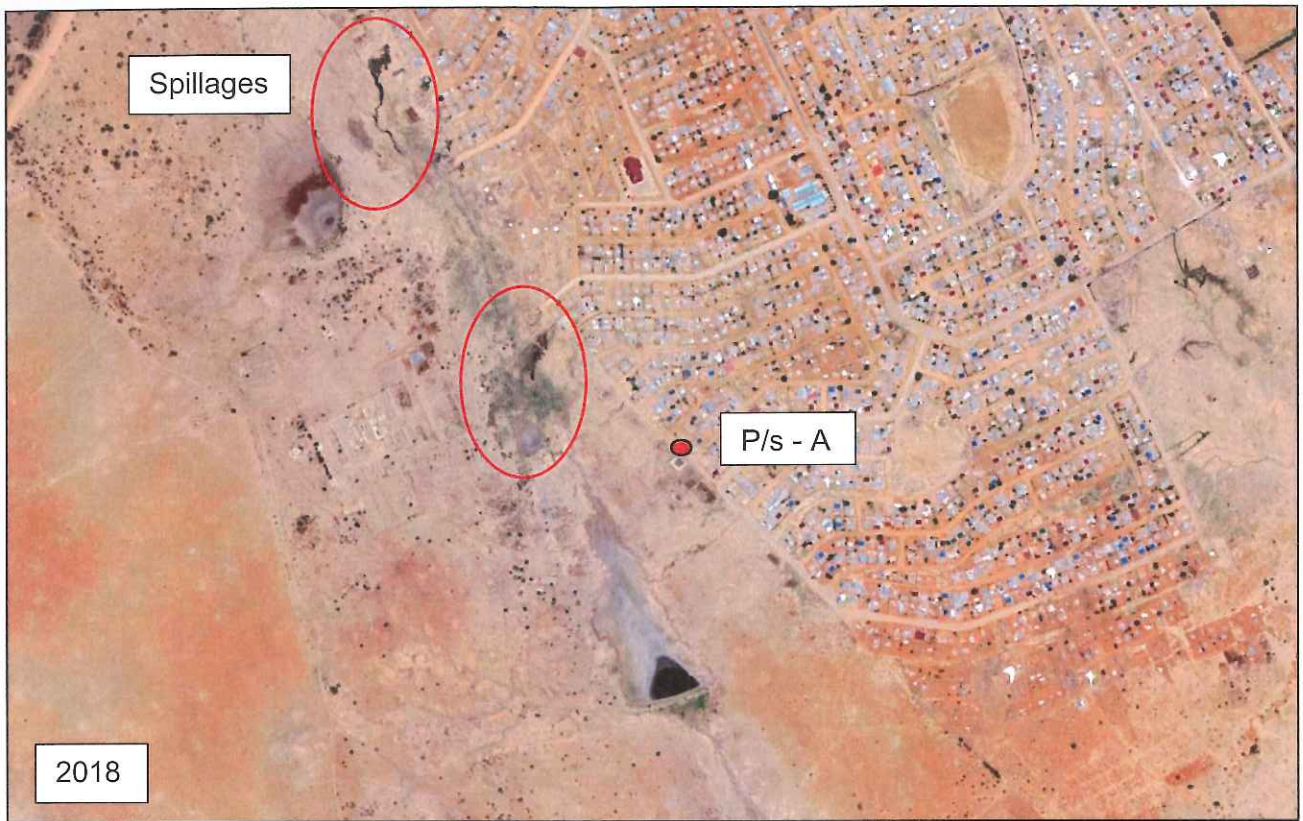
Pumping Station A

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Figure 2: Aerial View of Sewer Spillages at Pumping Station A

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Figure 3: Excessive Spillage near Pumping Station A



Figure 4: Cattle grazing near raw sewage at Pumping Station A

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Annexure C

Pumping Station B

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Figure 5: Aerial View of Sewer Spillages at Pumping Station B

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Figure 6: Overflowing Manholes near watercourse entering Pumping Station B

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Annexure D

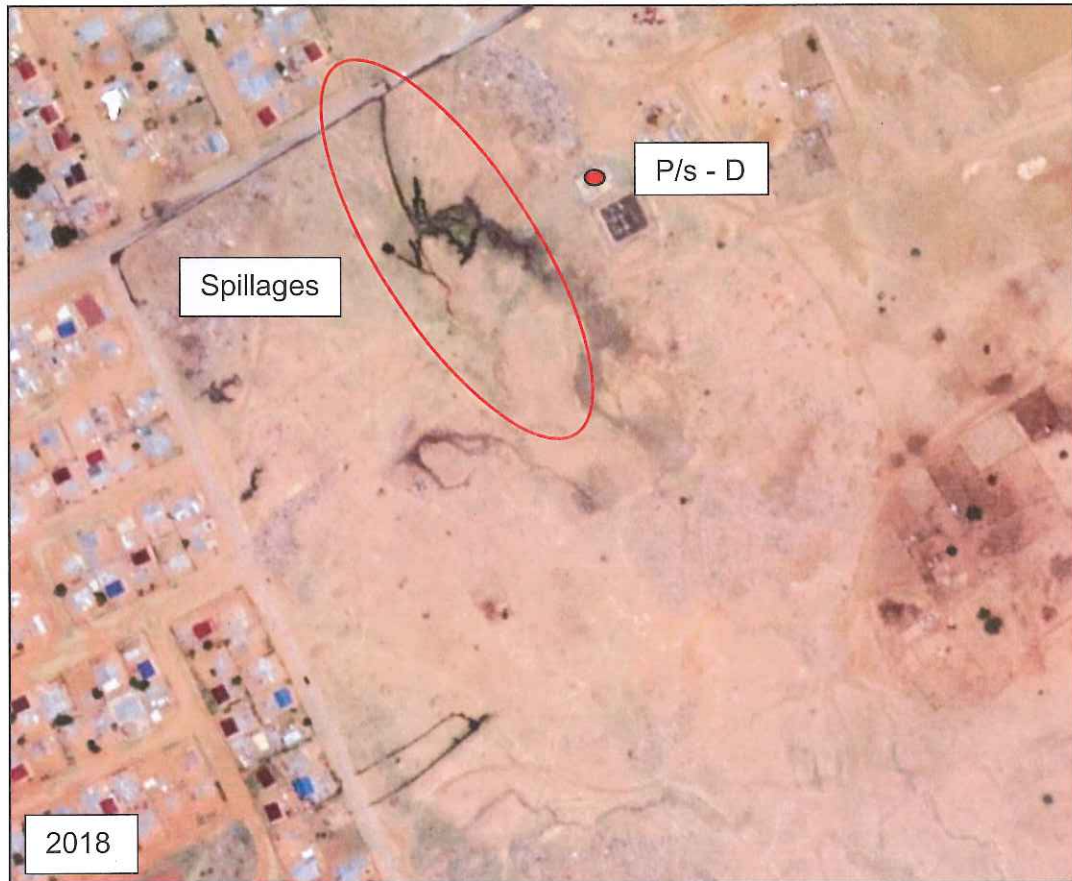
Pumping Station D

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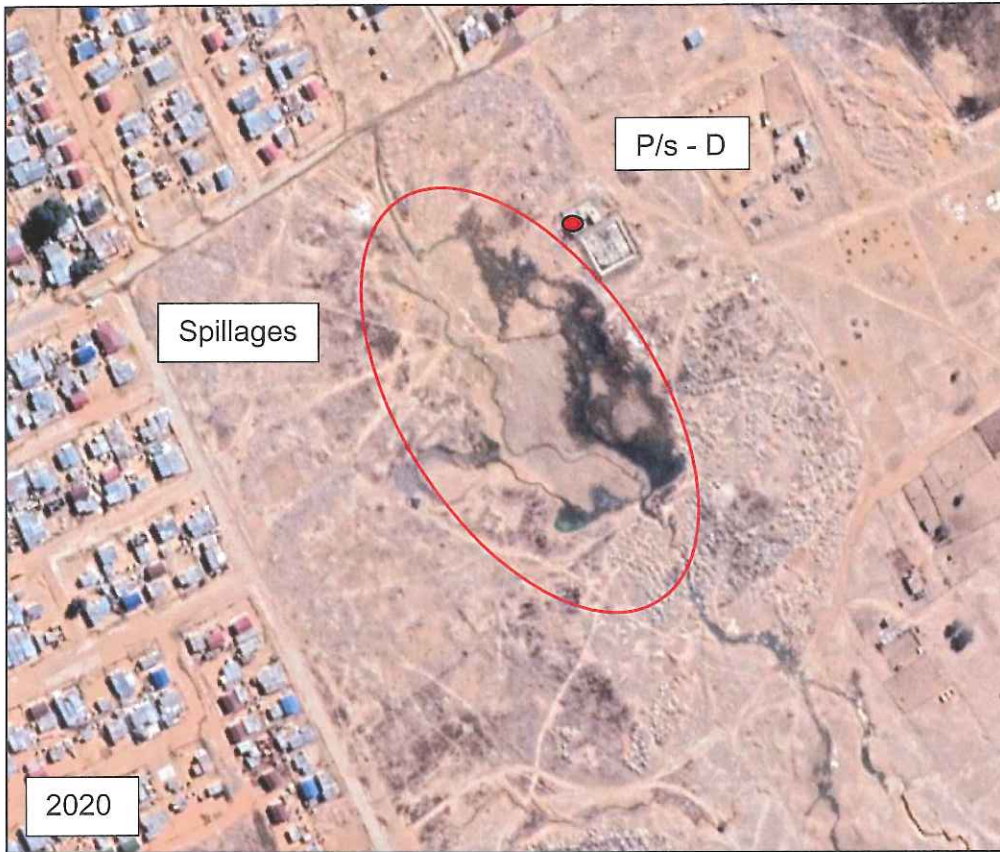


Figure 7: Aerial View of Sewer Spillages at Pumping Station D

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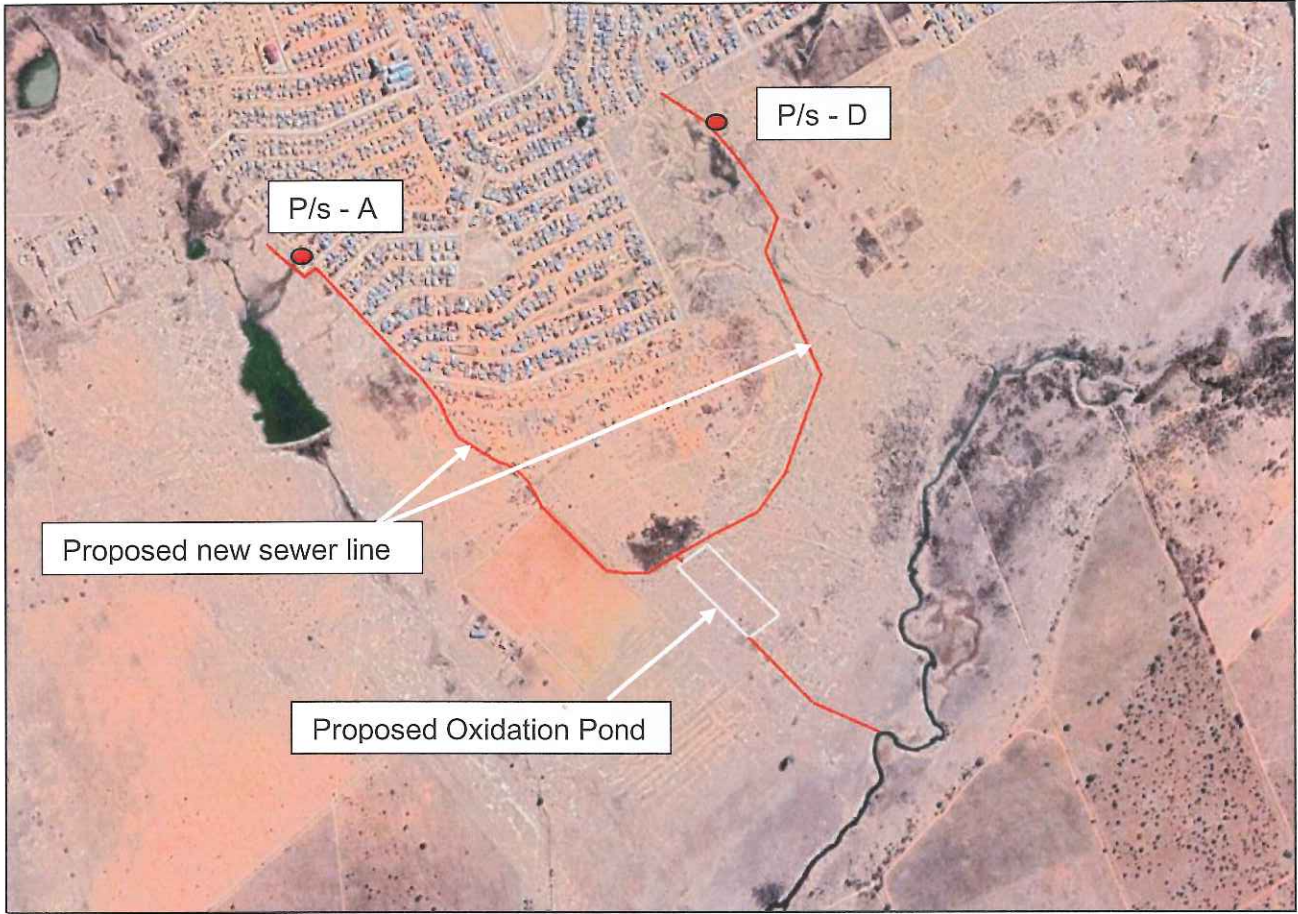
Figure 8: Sewer spilling towards the Harts River

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Annexure E

Proposed Oxidation Pond System

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