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Dear Mr. Kalwa

**SUBJECT: HERewith MTPA'S COMMENTS REGARDING THE SCOPING REPORT FOR THE PROPOSED LOWS CREEK DAM PROJECT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN INSTREAM STORAGE DAM FOR IRRIGATION PURPOSES ON PORTIONS OF THE REMAINING EXTENT OF ESPERADO 253 JU AND PORTIONS 1 AND 2 OF ESPERADO ANNEX 222 JU, SITUATED IN LOWS CREEK-KAAPMUIDEN AREA, MPUMALANGA PROVINCE.**

Your correspondence, with reference 1/3/1/16/1E-294 of date 04/2021 has reference.

1. After the consideration of the results from the specialist studies and the design of the dam the MTPA is in support of the preferred dam site A and the construction of the dam. However, we would like to recommend the following:
  - Where vegetation will be removed, it is recommended that the removal is restricted to areas where the development will take place.
  - Vegetation similar to the existing vegetation adjacent to the dam and along the riparian areas must be used to create the buffer zone around the full, high-water mark.
  - Stringent measures must be implemented in order to contain all the waste and potential hydrocarbon pollution from the construction phase.
  - During the operational phase of the dam, the dam outflow should never be impeded so that the ecosystems, functionality, species and Present Ecological State on the south of the proposed dam is not compromised.

## Comments from Aquatic and Herpetofauna Subsection

MTPA Scientific Services Subsection Aquatic and Herpetofauna reviewed the draft environmental impact report Volume 1 and 2 for the proposed construction of an instream-storage dam for irrigation purposes in the Lows Creek stream.

The MTPA have no objection to this proposed construction of the instream-storage dam under the following conditions:

- Fish way or fish ladder to be incorporated in the dam wall; rock-ramp types of fish way be the preferred design with a slope of more than 1:15. This construction should not create a barrier to normal fish migrations.
- The Ecological Water Requirements (EWR) must be implemented and managed by releasing water from the dam to mimic natural flow regime as closely as possible.

Kind Regards



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**MR. J.J EKSTEEN**  
Manager Scientific Services  
DATE: 30 April 2021

