18 January 2013

ERM Reference Number: 0164903

Dear Sir/Madam

Notice of release of Draft Basic Assessment Report for the upgrading of the water supply infrastructure for Pella Drift Water Board in Northern Cape Province, South Africa

DENC Reference Number: NC/BA/NAM/KHA/PEL-AGG1/2012/NCP/EIA/0000190/2012

Pella Drift Water Board (herein referred to as PWB) intends to upgrade the existing water supply infrastructure through the construction of a new water pipeline, pump stations and reservoirs. The existing water treatment works, located along the Orange River, will be upgraded as well. The PWB currently abstracts approximately 4.8 million m<sup>3</sup> of water from the Orange River, treats and then distributes water to the towns of Aggeneys, Pella, Pofadder and the existing Black Mountain Deeps Mine. The PWB has a total approved water allocation of 16.04 million m<sup>3</sup> per year. Due to growing water demands from these towns and the proposed introduction of the new Gamsberg zinc mine, the existing PWB water infrastructure is inadequate to meet future water demand projections.

The proposed upgrades will be undertaken in two phases, in line with the current growth projections of water demand. The first phase would comprise the upgrading of the Pella water treatment works through the installation of an additional clarifier. This will ensure that the water treatment works can adequately treat 18 Mega litres (MI) per day to a potable standard. The second phase will include the complete refurbishment of the water treatment works, construction of new supply pipelines and reservoirs at and from the Pella Pump Station to the town of Aggeneys. This phase will see an increase in treatment capacity from 18 Ml to 44 Ml per day to allow PWB to meet the anticipated growing demand.

A Basic Assessment process needs to be completed in terms of the National Environmental Management Act (No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) before the proposed project may go ahead. The Department of Environment and Nature Conservation (DENC) is the lead authority for the environmental assessment application. Environmental Resources Management Southern Africa (Pty) Ltd (herein referred to as ERM) has been appointed to undertake the Basic Assessment process for the proposed water infrastructure upgrades.

The Draft Basic Assessment Report is available at the following locations or on request from ERM, from 24 January - 4 March 2013:

- Pella Public Library
- Pella Municipal Offices
- Aggeneys Public Library
- Pofadder Public Library

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Company registration number 2003/001404/07

Directors Jeremy Soboil (Managing) Grant Bassingthwaighte John Alexander (UK) John Simonson (UK)

Offices worldwide

A member of the **Environmental Resources** Management Group

You are invited to comment on the Draft Basic Assessment Report and raise any issues of concern. All comments and questions can be directed to **Ms Tougheeda Aspeling** of ERM, Tel: 021 702 9100, Fax: (021) 701 7900,

Email: <u>Tougheeda.Aspeling@erm.com</u>, Website: <u>www.erm.com/pwb</u> or Postal address: Postnet Suite 90, Private Bag x 12, Tokai, 7966. Your comments should reach ERM on or before **04 March 2013**.

Yours sincerely ERM

Nestus Bredenhann Senior Consultant

Enclosed:

• Comment & Reply Sheet

Notice of release of Draft Basic Assessment Report for the upgrading of the water supply infrastructure for Pella Drift Water Board in Northern Cape Province, South Africa

## **REGISTRATION & COMMENT SHEET**

January 2013

Should you have any queries, comments or suggestions regarding the proposed project, please note them below.

Please return your comments by 04 March 2013

Return this comment sheet to **Tougheeda Aspelling** of ERM:

Fax Number: 086 292 7318 or email: <a href="mailto:tougheeda.aspelling@erm.com">tougheeda.aspelling@erm.com</a> or website: <a href="mailto:www.erm.com/pwb">www.erm.com/pwb</a> or Postal Address: Postnet Suite 624, Private Bag X29, Gallo Manor, 2052

Please formally register me as an interested and affected party (I&AP) and provide further information and notifications during the Basic Assessment process				Yes	No
I would like to receive my notifications by:		Email	Post	Fax	
Comments:					
Please register the	following people for this Basic A	ssessment:			
r lease register the	lonowing people for this basic A	330331110111.			
Please fill-in your contact details below for the project database:					
Title and Name:					
Organisation:					
Telephone:	Fax	c:			
Cellphone:	Em	ail:			
Postal Address:					
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Name		Signature	Date		

Thank you for your valuable contribution

