
GOVERNMENT NOTICES

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

No. R. 20

14 January 2005

CONSERVATION OF AGRICULTURAL RESOURCES ACT, 1983 (ACT No. 43 OF 1983)

DISASTER DROUGHT ASSISTANCE SCHEME FOR AGRICULTURAL WATER SUPPLY TO STOCK/GAME FARMERS ELEMENT EMERGENCY WATER SUPPLY

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The below average and late rain received in the **2003/2004** season resulted in certain districts in **8** Provinces being subjected to critical **low** levels of water availability. The aspect of a drinking water supply for **stock/game** and human consumption in agricultural areas experiencing critical water shortage are addressed through this scheme.

2. QUALIFICATION

- 2.1 Only agricultural land qualifies for assistance
- 2.2 Both commercial and communal farmers qualify for assistance.
- 2.3 A critical water shortage for the purpose of this scheme is defined as a position where water availability for stock watering purposes is less than that required by the animals representing **33%** of the official carrying capacity of the natural veld area on the farm and the minimum daily consumption of the people living permanently on that land.
- 2.4 The daily provision of emergency water is calculated at:
- 50 litres per day per large stock unit;
 - 5 litres per day per small stock unit;
 - 20 litres per day per human.

3. ASSISTANCE MEASURES TO SECURE DRINKING WATER ON COMMERCIAL LAND

- 3.1 The cleaning and recovering of existing boreholes **qualifies** for assistance. Cleaning of existing boreholes is considered the first attempt to satisfy the requirements. The replacement of a pump on an existing borehole however does not qualify for assistance.
- 3.2 The drilling of new boreholes will qualify for assistance.
- 3.3 The fitting **of** appropriate pumping equipment on the borehole drilled **for** emergency purposes will qualify for assistance
- 3.4 The purchase of a **5000** litre plastic tank will qualify for assistance if the nearest reservoir is further than **500** meters away from the borehole drilled for emergency purposes.
- 3.5 Priority will **be** given to farms without any **access** to drinking water for **stock/game** and human needs.
- 3.6 The 1st drilling attempt will qualify for a rebate of 75% on **the** determined drilling tariff as stated in table 1. The first **150** meters **will** qualify for a rebate and thereafter no rebate will apply.
- 3.7 **If** the 1st attempt at the drilling of a new borehole was **unsuccessful**, application for a second drilling attempt may **be** made. A rebate of **50%** for the 2nd attempt will **be** applicable. The first **150** meters **will** qualify for rebate and thereafter **no** rebate will apply.
- 3.8 **An** unsuccessful borehole is defined as a borehole with a tested yield **of** 450 litres per hour or less, or when the water **quality is too poor for** animal consumption.
- 3.9 **If** the 1st attempt to recover a borehole fails, a rebate of **50%** for the drilling of a new borehole or the recovery **of** a 2nd borehole will **be** applicable. The first 150 meters will **qualify** for rebate and thereafter no rebate **will** apply.
- 3.10 **No** rebate will be payable **on** the 3rd attempt. These applications will not be seen **as** priority.
- 3.11 These assistance measures will only be available until 31 March 2005. To **qualify for rebate, infrastructure should be installed and operational by 28** February 2005.

- 3.12 A rebate of 75% with a maximum of R15 000 **will** be payable for pumping equipment.
- 3.13 The maximum rebate payable to any landowner irrespective of the number of farming units owned will be R 30 000.

4. ASSISTANCE MEASURES TO SECURE DRINKING WATER ON COMMUNAL LAND

- 4.1 The cleaning and refurbishment of existing boreholes qualifies for assistance. Cleaning and refurbishment of existing boreholes is considered the first attempt to satisfy the requirements.
- 4.2 The drilling of new boreholes will **qualify** for assistance if the existing and refurbished boreholes **do** not satisfy the requirements.
- 4.3 The fitting of appropriate pumping equipment on the borehole drilled for emergency purposes **will** qualify for assistance.
- 4.4 The installation of pipelines and other infrastructure to connect the water to existing stock watering systems will **qualify** for assistance
- 4.5 Priority will be given to communities without any access to drinking water for **stock/game** and human needs.
- 4.6 A request for each drilling attempt must be authorised appropriately.
- 4.7 Provinces can claim **100%** of the costs for **the** supply of emergency water to communal areas from the fund established for this purpose.

5. CONDITIONS PERTAINING TO THE DRILLING SCHEME

- 5.1 **The** Scheme will make provision for stock/game drinking water and human needs.
- 5.2 **No** drilling will be done prior to obtaining written permission **from** the Provincial Department of Agriculture concerned.
- 5.3 Private drilling contractors **will** have to be used for purposes of the scheme.
- 5.4 Applications **will** only be considered if supported by a water inventory that **includes all** water **sources** on the farm.

- 5.5 Applications **will** only **be** considered after a local extension officer or delegate has carried out an on-site inspection.
- 5.6 A consent that the request has been approved and that a drilling contractor can be appointed has to be issued by the scheme manager before any work commences.
- 5.7 Only boreholes sited by personnel of the Directorate: WUID or qualified geologists will **be** approved. Fees of geologists are payable by the applicant.
- 5.8 Testing of boreholes for delivery and water quality must **be** done. The Directorate Water Use and Irrigation Development **will** assist provinces in this regard to enable effective monitoring of water levels and delivery rates.
- 5.9 A control inspection of the **work** done by private drilling contractors is required and a report must **be** submitted before any rebates can be claimed. The land user is responsible for payment of the contractor and the rebate will be paid directly to the land user.
- 5.10 In the **case** of communal land the province must pay the contractor
- 5.11 Only equipment for new boreholes and work on existing rehabilitated boreholes will qualify for rebates. Therefore **no** rebates **will be** payable without drilling and testing reports.
- 5.12 Only new pumping equipment will qualify for rebates.

6. APPLICATION PROCEDURES

6.1 Who qualifies?

- o Any stock farmer/game farmer, either **full** time or part time, **who** is experiencing critical water shortages, may apply.
- o Provincial Departments of Agriculture may apply on behalf of farmers in traditional tenure areas.
- o Employees of farmers are *included in the* number of humans living permanently *on a farm*.

6.2 Application forms

Application forms will be available from the local extension officers based in the district offices of the Provincial Departments of Agriculture or any other office as determined by the Province.

6.3 Application procedures

- Completed application forms must be submitted to the nearest district **offices** of the Provincial Departments of Agriculture.
- Extension officers or officers from support directorates in the Provincial Departments of Agriculture, will then visit the **farm/farming** enterprise to verify the need for **stock/game** drinking water and human consumption requirements.
- The completed form will then be sent to the Provincial Department of Agriculture's Head Office for approval and processed if a private contractor is to be used and a copy will be sent to **D:WUID** for registration of the borehole on the geo-hydrology database.
- Farmers will be notified in writing whether their applications have been approved or rejected.
- The proposed borehole must be sited **by** a Geologist or the **D:WUID**.
- A private, drilling contractor must be appointed by the applicant, after approval and the borehole has been sited.
- Private Contractors can only be utilized once permission **has** been granted.

6.3.1 Payment procedures when a private contractor is utilized

- Payments of rebates will be based on the scheme as described in paragraph 2 and drilling tariffs as depicted in table 1.
- The farmer will be responsible for appointing the private **contractor** and paying him in full, after written permission has been granted.
- Receipts must be handed in for verification purposes.
- Drilling and testing **reports must be submitted to** the Directorate: **WUID** in Silverton, Pretoria.

- The farmer will be paid the rebate as determined in section 2.
- Payment method will be via electronic bank transfers. Thus all the banking details, account no. etc, must be stated on the claim forms.

6.3.2 Payments for rebate on pumping equipment

- The farmer will be responsible for the procurement and installation of equipment according to test results.
- The farmer will then be paid a rebate by the Provincial Department of Agriculture as determined in section 2 after being inspected by a Technician.
- Payment method will be via electronic bank transfers. **Thus** all the banking details, account no. etc, must be stated on the claim forms.
- Tax invoices and receipts, attached to a completed *Request for Payment* form, must be submitted to Department of Agriculture's Head Office.
- A copy of the farm map indicating boundaries, camps, fountains, streams and dwellings must accompany the application and completed by a PDA official. The proposed drilling sites and proposed equipment must be indicated on the sketched map.

7. CONTROL / TESTING

- 7.1 The Directorate: WUID will test boreholes and submit test results to the Chief Engineer: Construction. (WUID)
- 7.2 Where the capacity is lacking, D: WUID will appoint private contractors to test the boreholes in consultation with the Provincial Departments of Agriculture.
- 7.3 Technicians from the Provincial Department of Agriculture **will be** responsible for verifying that pumping equipment has been installed.
- 7.4 Spot checks will be executed by **D: WUID** to ensure the appropriateness of claims

TABLE 1 – Drilling costs (Department of Agriculture)

Action	Type of work	Drilling cost
Drilling cost	Ordinary drilling	R132-00/meter
Work on existing boreholes	Pneumatic Percussion	R132-00/hour R220-00/hour
Casing	165 mm dia	R132-00/meter
	165 mm dia perforated	R179-00/meter