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INVITATION TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS IN TERMS OF SECTION 110 OF THE NATIONAL WATER ACT 1998 (ACT 36 OF 1998) ON THE PROPOSED UMKHOMAZI WATER PROJECT PHASE 1 RAW WATER COMPONENT AND THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT RELATING THERETO

The Minister of Water and Sanitation intends to construct a government water works, the **raw water component** of the uMkhomazi Water Project Phase 1 (uMWP-1), as contained in the Schedule hereto.

In terms of Section 110(1)(b)(iii) of the National Water Act 1998 (Act 36 of 1998) interested parties are invited to submit written comments on the proposed government water works and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) by 30 September 2022. Written comments must be submitted to the Director-General, Department of Water and Sanitation, Private Bag X313, Pretoria 0001; and marked for attention of Mr. JA Bester, Chief Engineer: Water Resource Development Planning (East).

SCHEDULE TO THE PROPOSED UMKHOMAZI WATER PROJECT PHASE 1  
GOVERNMENT WATER WORKS, RAW WATER COMPONENT AND SUMMARY OF THE  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

1. SUMMARY OF THE TECHNICAL ASPECTS OF THE UMKHOMAZI WATER  
PROJECT PHASE 1

1.1. *Project Background*

The proposed uMWP-1, which is situated within the southern part of KwaZulu-Natal (KZN), is a mega water project to be constructed that will augment the water resources of the Mgeni System. The uMWP-1 will transfer water from the undeveloped uMkhomazi River to the Mgeni System. The current water resources of the Mgeni System consist of the Midmar, Albert Falls, Nagle and Inanda dams, as well as the Water Transfer Scheme from the Mooi River (Mearns Weir and Spring Grove Dam). These resources are insufficient to meet the long-term water demands from the Mgeni System. The eThekweni Metropolitan Municipality (MM), uMgungundlovu, ILembe and Ugu District Municipalities (DMs) rely completely, or partially, on the Mgeni System for their water supplies. The Mgeni System supplies water to the third largest economic hub in South Africa, including Durban and Pietermaritzburg, which is the second most populated area in South Africa (about 6 million people). The water requirements projections show that the Mgeni System has already been in deficit since 2016.

The Mgeni System has a stochastic yield of 334 million cubic metres per annum (m<sup>3</sup>/a) at a 99% assurance of supply, and the augmentation from Spring Grove Dam on the Mooi River increased the system yield by 60 million m<sup>3</sup>/a to 394 million m<sup>3</sup>/a. The uMWP-1 will increase the system yield by about 215 million m<sup>3</sup>/a to 609 million m<sup>3</sup>/a, which will be sufficient until about 2040 where after further augmentation will be required. The uMWP-1 also presents the

opportunity for the upliftment of, and water supply to, poor local communities within the project area as well as in the uMkhomazi River Catchment.

### **1.2. Planning Investigations**

Past pre-feasibility investigations concluded that the uMWP-1 is the next most viable option to supply the large volume of water required to augment the water requirements from the Mgeni System until 2040. The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) completed the Detailed Planning Investigations for the uMWP-1 in 2015, which confirmed the technical and economic feasibility of the uMWP-1. All the technical reports are available on the Project Website at:

<http://www.dws.gov.za/mwp/uMkhomazi/documents.aspx>

### **1.3. Project Description**

The uMWP-1 (see attached map) will consist of raw water and potable water components. The Minister of the DWS directed the Trans-Caledon Tunnel Authority (TCTA) to implement the raw water component. Umgeni Water (UW) who supplies bulk potable water to the eThekweni MM, uMgungundlovu, ILembe and Ugu DMs, as well as to the North Coast Areas will implement the potable water component.

The uMWP-1 raw water component will consist of the following infrastructure:

- A proposed large storage dam on the uMkhomazi River at a farm called Smithfield (the proposed Smithfield Dam) and its associated works;
- A bulk 32.5 km long 3.5 m diameter raw water conveyance tunnel (the proposed uMkhomazi – uMlaza Tunnel);
- A 5.1 km long 2.6 m diameter gravity bulk raw water pipeline;
- A potential hydropower plant (HPP) at Smithfield Dam, and
- Three (3) flow gauging weirs on the uMkhomazi River.

The uMWP-1 potable water component will consist of the following infrastructure:

- A potential HPP at the proposed Baynesfield Water Treatment Works (WTW);
- The proposed Baynesfield WTW with a treatment capacity of 625 Mℓ/day in the uMlaza River Valley, and
- A 21.3 km long gravity potable water pipeline from the proposed Baynesfield WTW to Umlaas Road where it will tie into the bulk potable water distribution system.

The proposed Smithfield Dam has the following characteristics:

PARAMETER	DESCRIPTION
<b>GENERAL</b>	
River	uMkhomazi River
Nearest Town	Bulwer
Province	KwaZulu-Natal
Location	29° 46' 30.31"S; 29° 56' 39.43"E
Classification: Category	III
Size Class	Large
Hazard Potential	High
Non-overspill Crest Level (NOC)	936 masl
Full Supply Level (FSL)	930 masl
Gross Storage Capacity at FSL	251.43 million m <sup>3</sup>
Water Surface Area at FSL	9.53 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>MAIN DAM</b>	
Dam Type	Earth Core Rockfill Dam
Maximum Wall Height above River Bed Level	81 m
Crest Length including Spillway	1 350 m
Spillway Crest Length	150 m
Spillway Type	Side Channel Spillway
Freeboard	6 m
<b>SADDLE DAM</b>	
Dam Type	Zoned Earthfill Dam
Maximum Wall Height above River Bed Level	26 m
Crest Length including Spillway	1 190 m
Spillway Crest Length	100 m
Spillway Type	Fuse Plug Spillway
<b>HYDROLOGY AND FLOODS</b>	
Catchment Area	2 058 km <sup>2</sup>
Mean Annual Runoff (MAR) at the Dam	726 million m <sup>3</sup> /a
Yield at 98% Assurance of Supply	215 million m <sup>3</sup> /a
Design Flood (1 in 200 year)	2 620 m <sup>3</sup> /s
Safety Evaluation Flood (SEF)	5 650 m <sup>3</sup> /s

\* The above details are subject to final design, which may require minor changes.

The proposed uMkhomazi – uMlaza Tunnel extends from the east side of the proposed Smithfield Dam to the upper reaches of the existing Mbangweni Dam in the uMlaza River Valley, and will be able to convey the peak demand of 8.65 m<sup>3</sup>/s. The proposed Gravity Bulk Raw Water Pipeline will connect the uMkhomazi – uMlaza Tunnel to the proposed Baynesfield WTW.

Baynesfield WTW could generate a potential 5.4 MW, which could feasibly generate additional income that can contribute towards the operation and maintenance costs of the uMWP-1. The Implementing Agent (TCTA) will undertake more detailed investigations to confirm the feasibility and economic viability of the potential HPPs.

The proposed Smithfield Dam will inundate several roads that must be relocated, and therefore about 16 km of new access roads will also be constructed. Furthermore, about 12 km of Provincial Road R617 will also be inundated and will therefore be deviated (re-aligned). A further 2.4 km of permanent access roads, and about 39 km of servitude roads along the tunnel and the bulk raw water pipelines, will also be constructed.

An Upstream Flow Gauging Weir will be constructed to measure inflows into the proposed Smithfield Dam. A River Flow Gauging Weir will be constructed approximately 1.3 km downstream of the proposed Smithfield Dam to measure the smaller discharges from the dam as well as the ecological flow releases. A second River Flow Gauging Weir will be constructed about 40 km downstream of the proposed Smithfield Dam to determine the incremental runoff downstream of the dam, and to assist with the Ecological Water Requirements.

#### **1.4. Land Acquisition and Servitudes**

Land acquisition and the registration of servitudes will be according to best practises in accordance with standing legislation, policies and regulations. The estimated total area of land to be expropriated and for servitudes to be registered is about 1 818 ha.

#### **1.5. Capital Cost and Funding Requirements**

The estimated cost of constructing the uMWP-1 Raw water component is R17 373 million, including 15% VAT and escalation to the year 2018.

#### **Cost Breakdown**

The cost breakdown (2018 figures) for the uMWP-1 Raw water component is as follows:

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT (R million)
Smithfield Dam and Associated Infrastructure	2,842
Smithfield Dam Hydropower Plant*	47
uMkhomazi – uMlaza Tunnel	4,953
Bulk Raw Water Pipelines	384

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT (R million)
<b>Sub Total of Activities</b>	<b>8,226</b>
Preliminary & General Items (25% of activity cost)	2,056
Professional Fees (12% of activity cost)	987
Environmental, Landscaping and Social Costs (Lump Sum)	568
Land Acquisition (Lump Sum)	47
<b>Sub Total of Activities and Value-related Costs</b>	<b>11,884</b>
Contingencies (25% of above Sub Total)	2,971
Implementing Agent (Lump Sum)	252
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL COST (Excl. VAT)</b>	<b>15,107</b>
<b>VAT (15%)</b>	<b>2,226</b>
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL COST (Incl. VAT)</b>	<b>17,373</b>

*\* Hydropower plant feasibility will be determined during the final design stage*

#### **1.6. Funding Requirements**

Municipalities requested grant funding for 50% of the social component of the uMWP-1. This will facilitate continued access to water for the poorer households supplied by the Mgeni System. Grant finding will lessen the total cost burden on those consumers that are required to pay the full tariff. The Implementing Agent will secure the balance of the funding requirements (50%) through private loans.

#### **1.7. Socio- economic Benefits**

The uMWP-1 will have an impact on both the regional and local economies in the short-term and long-term and has the potential to generate employment opportunities and thereby improve household income. This will stimulate business and human capital development as well as assist in the raising of living standards. All the appointed contractors and consultants will be required to have their skills development plans in order, which will ensure that skills development will have a long-lasting impact.

#### **1.8. Water Supply to Local Communities and Other Water Users**

The uMWP-1 will transfer water from the uMkhomazi River Catchment to the Mgeni System. The uMkhomazi River Catchment should however retain the ability to sustain its requirements in addition to the transfers out of the catchment. It will therefore be ensured that the water requirements of local communities and other water users in the catchment are met satisfactorily. The correct and timeous implementation of the proposed Stephen Dlamini Dam on the Luhane River, and the Harry Gwala DM Regional Bulk Water Supply Scheme (BWSS) that will draw from this proposed dam, will therefore benefit the implementation of the uMWP-1. The proposed Stephen Dlamini Dam and the Harry Gwala DM Regional BWSS will ensure



that local communities in the area have access to safe and reliable water supplies. The proposed Stephen Dlamini Dam will be implemented by Umgeni Water.

### **1.9. Operational Requirements**

The uMWP-1 is configured to augment the Mgeni System's water resources, as well as to release the required water for the downstream users and the ecological reserve. Water from the uMkhomazi River will be stored in Smithfield Dam and conveyed to the Baynesfield WTW via the uMkhomazi – uMlaza Tunnel and the Bulk Raw Water Pipelines. Treated water from the Baynesfield WTW will be conveyed via the gravity potable water pipeline from the Baynesfield WTW to Umlaas Road, where it will tie into the Umgeni Water Bulk Potable Water Distribution System. The annual operating costs for the uMWP-1 raw water component has been estimated at R46 million per annum, including VAT, and escalation to the year 2018.

### **1.10. Implementation and Funding Arrangements**

A Project Steering Committee (PSC) drawing membership from affected institutions shall be established to play an oversight role during implementation of the project. A key milestone for implementation is to finalise the financial and institutional arrangements which include back-to-back agreements.

### **1.11. Operating Entity**

Umgeni Water will be the Operating Entity to operate and maintain the uMWP-1 raw water component on behalf of the DWS.

### **1.12. Technical Specialist Studies**

To conclude the technical feasibility, study the following additional studies were done.

The **Economic Impact Assessment** found that the uMWP-1 has the potential to generate high levels of job creation. If the uMWP-1 is not implemented the positive economic impacts thereof, and the benefits associated with adequate and reliable potable water provision will be lost.

During the EIA process the **Potential Impact of Smithfield Dam on Coastal Sediment Budget and Shoreline Stability** was identified and proposed mitigation measures to reduce the impact of Smithfield Dam on the coastal sediment budget and shoreline stability were recommended.

The **Traffic Impact Assessment** found that the construction and operational traffic will mainly impact upon Provincial Roads R617 and R56, which will be mitigated

Additional engineering investigations for the **realignment options of the R617** Provincial Road were undertaken. Three (3) new route options were identified and investigated by taking into account the topography, river crossings, the affected communities, as well as sensitive environmental influences. The preferred realignment option also provides for a new gravel access road and a small bridge for access to land located to the north of the uMkhomazi River, which would have otherwise been cut off by the proposed Smithfield Dam.

## 2. SUMMARY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

All the EIA reports are available on the Project Website at:

<http://www6.dwa.gov.za/iwrp/uMkhomazi/documents.aspx>

The DWS undertook an EIA for the uMWP-1 raw water component in terms of Section 110 of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) and the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998). The Department of Mineral Resource (DMR) EIA Process for the Quarries and Borrow Areas was also undertaken in terms of the 2014 published NEMA Regulations. Environmental Authorisation for the uMWP-1 was granted by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) by September 2021. DFFE approved the Pre-Construction Environmental Management Programmes for Smithfield Dam (2 March 2022) and Conveyance Infrastructure (4 March 2022).

### 2.1. The following Specialist studies were done:

#### 2.1.1. *Terrestrial Fauna and Flora Assessment*

The *Terrestrial Fauna and Flora Assessment* assessed the impacts that the uMWP-1 will have on the flora and fauna in the Project Area. It was found that there are no threatened flora species, but four (4) faunal species are of conservation importance in the proposed Smithfield Dam Area. The *Terrestrial Fauna and Flora Assessment* recommended that a search and rescue be undertaken prior to construction in order to confirm the presence of species of special concern in the Project Area. All relocations of fauna and flora must comply with the requirements of Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife (EKZNW), in terms of the National Environmental Management Biodiversity Act (Act No. 10 of 2004) and Natal Nature Conservation Ordinance (15 of 1974).

#### 2.1.2. *Aquatic Impact Assessment*

The *Aquatic Impact Assessment* assessed the aquatic and wetland ecological impact surveys for both the uMWP Raw and Potable Water Components. The *Aquatic Impact Assessment* recommended that offset mitigation measures be implemented to compensate for the loss of ecologically important habitat, as well as the implementation of measures to improve catchment management.

#### 2.1.3. *Heritage Impact Assessment*

The *Phase 1 Heritage Impact Assessment* was undertaken in terms of Section 38 of the National Heritage Resources Act, 1999 (Act No 25 of 1999), which identified the affected heritage sites and graves. The impacts on the affected heritage sites and graves will have to be mitigated and a Heritage Management Plan is therefore required. A Phase 2 Archaeological Impact Assessment is recommended, which must also include a search for unknown rock art sites that could possibly exist in the uMkhomazi River Valley. A Phase 2 Palaeontological Impact Assessment Site Visit will be required prior to inundation, as there is a high probability of finding fossil plants in the area.

#### **2.1.4. Agricultural Impact Assessment**

The *Agricultural Impact Assessment* evaluated the agricultural potential of the affected farming areas. The main impact on agriculture will be the loss of high potential land, which is irreplaceable on a national level, but replaceable on a local level by purchasing other land. Landowners and land users could also be compensated for the loss of income instead.

#### **2.1.5. Visual Impact Assessment**

The *Visual Impact Assessment* addressed the visual effects of the uMWP-1 Raw water component on the receiving environment. Predictable visual impacts during the construction and operational phases (when the dams are filled), as well as the mitigation thereof, will be addressed during the design phase prior to construction, in order to generate preventative measures that will influence design decisions.

#### **2.1.6. Avifauna Study**

The *Avifauna Study* identified and assessed the bird species that occur in and around the Project Area, their importance, the uMWP-1's impacts on them and the mitigation. The Blue Swallow is the primary bird species of concern in the project area and is critically endangered, since there are only a breeding pairs left in South Africa, and the species is known to be susceptible to disturbance.

#### **2.1.7. Vibration Opinion**

A *Specialist Opinion* was sought on the potential effects of vibration from tunnelling and other construction activities on the Blue Swallows and this matter was taken forward in further studies.

#### **2.1.8. Socio-economic Impact Assessment**

The *Socio-Economic Impact Assessment* found that the uMWP-1 has the potential to temporarily enhance living standards of those directly affected, as well as of the population in the region in terms of employment, small businesses and social development. The loss of land in the area will cause a negative impact, since subsistence and commercial agriculture dominates other industries in the area. Compensation for the loss of land, income, and infrastructure will be adequately planned, communicated, and controlled. All negotiations shall be fair and transparent at all times. At least twenty-eight (28) households will need to be relocated, and therefore a fair and transparent Relocation Action Plan (RAP) as well as a Stakeholder Engagement Plan will be required.

#### **2.1.9. Social Impact Assessment**

The Smithfield Dam Basin is located on land under control of the Traditional Authority and land owned by the State. The construction activities will result in a range of impacts that are common to most construction sites, such as dust, noise, traffic, influx of people, presence of construction workers, crime, cultural conflicts, increased risk of HIV/AIDS, use of the local road network for operation and maintenance purposes as well as the destruction of valuable flora and fauna.



#### **2.1.10. Relocation Framework Plan and Relocation Action Plan**

The *Relocation Framework Plan (RFP)* will inform and facilitate the preparation of a RAP and will focus on some of those matters that may be very time-consuming and should be scheduled for early attention in the Implementation Programme. The RAP shall be compiled and implemented in strict compliance with all the relevant legislation, policies and regulations. Best practices in compiling the RAP for relocating people who are displaced, either voluntarily or involuntarily, by the uMWP-1 are to be followed, where appropriate. All mitigation and compensation measures associated with the relocation of people from the Project Area must be implemented prior to construction.

### **2.2. Additional Environmental Specialist Studies**

#### **2.2.1. Noise Impact Assessment**

The *Noise Impact Assessment* determined the ambient sound levels in the area, potential worst-case noise rating levels and the potential noise impacts that the uMWP-1 may have on the surrounding sound environment (with a focus on Blue Swallows). It was found that the uMWP-1 will not introduce any potential fatal flaws from an acoustic point of view. With the selection of the required mitigation options the projected noise levels can be managed.

#### **2.2.2. Vibration Impact Assessment**

The *Vibration Impact Assessment* evaluated the background vibrations, identified and describes the key sensitive receptors (with a focus on Blue Swallows), explains ground vibration mechanisms, compared ground vibration thresholds against expected values and discusses the mitigation measures. The assessment concluded that with monitoring and mitigation measures in place impacts will be mitigated.

#### **2.2.3. Avifauna Bridging Study**

The *Avifauna Bridging Study* was built on the Initial Avifauna Specialist Study that was undertaken as part of the EIA. It primarily addressed several areas of concern and uncertainty identified during the Initial Avifauna Specialist Study, especially as relates to the Blue Swallows. Furthermore, the Avifauna Bridging Study also critically assessed the afore-mentioned Noise Impact and Vibration Impact Assessments. Due to mitigation measures put in place it was possible for the DFFE to approve the project.

#### **2.2.4. Invertebrate Impact Assessment**

The *Invertebrate Impact Assessment* determined the presence of the endangered Pennington's Protea Butterfly and the endemic Riverine Keeled Millipede. The potential impacts of the uMWP-1 on these threatened invertebrate species were assessed and suitable mitigation measures were approved by DFFE.

### 2.2.5. *Biodiversity Offset Study*

The *Biodiversity Offset Study* determined the feasibility of compensating for significant residual adverse biodiversity impacts arising from the uMWP-1 Raw Water Component. The required offsets (including ratios, recipient sites and budgets) for the loss of riparian zones, wetlands, critical biodiversity areas and habitat for faunal species of conservation concern associated with the proposed Smithfield Dam and Langa Balancing Dam options were investigated. The *Biodiversity Offset Study* concluded with a *Biodiversity Offset Implementation Plan*, which consists of the institutional arrangements, offset and compensation budget, implementation plan as well as specific implementation measures.

## 2.3. Public Participation

A Public Participation Programme (PPPr) was launched during the Feasibility Study, as part of the EIA. The PPPr was complemented by the activities of the PSC through its stakeholders and the ongoing consultation processes on water related issues. The National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) and Government Notice No R. 543 of 18 June 2010, which govern the Public Participation Process (PPP), were followed during the EIA.

The uMWP-1 was announced through the distribution of a Background Information Document (BID) and Reply Forms, as well as notification of Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) via on-site notices, newspaper advertisements and public meetings during October 2014. Notification of Review of the Draft Scoping Report was undertaken during July 2014 and it was lodged for review from 29 July to 08 September 2014. The Draft Scoping Report was also made available for public review and a Database of I&APs was maintained and is also available on the Project Website.

In accordance with Regulation 56 of Government Notice No. R. 543 of 18 June 2010, registered I&APs were granted an opportunity to review and comment on the Draft EIA Report. A forty (40) day review period of the Draft EIA Report was provided for from 04 July to 15 August 2016. All the I&APs on the Database were notified of the opportunity to review the Draft EIA Report, and about the public meetings, through a notification letter to I&APs via email, and bulk SMSs to I&APs. Formal communication channels were used to notify the communities in the Western Part of the Project Area, which included direct notification of the Traditional Councils and Community Representatives.

Legal Notices were placed in the 29 June 2016 editions of the Star (English), the Witness (English), and Isolezwe (Zulu) newspapers. Hard copies of the Draft EIA Report were made available at the Baynesfield Club, Beaumont Eston Farmers Club, Buiwer Public Library, Richmond Public Library and the Camperdown Public Library. Copies of the Draft EIA Report were provided to the following parties, which include key regulatory and commenting authorities, such as the then Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA), KZN Provincial Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs, EKZNW, DWS KZN Regional Office, DMR KZN Office, Amafa aKwaZulu-Natali, Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF), Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA), KZN Department

of Transport, Harry Gwala DM and Ingwe LM (now the Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma LM), uMgungundlovu DM and Richmond LM, Traditional Authorities, as well as Eskom. The Draft EIA Report was also uploaded to the Project Website. Minutes of the public meetings are available on the Project Website, and the details of the public meetings that were convened to present the Draft EIA Report are as follows:

No.	DATE	TIME	TARGET AUDIENCE
1	13 July 2016	09h00 to 11h00	Amaqadi Traditional Council and Community
2		12h00 to 14h00	Deepdale Community
3	14 July 2016	09h00 to 12h00	Baynesfield Area
4		14h00 to 17h00	Umlaas Road Area
5	15 July 2016	10h00 to 12h00	KwaBhidla Traditional Council and Community
6		14h00 to 16h00	Impendle Tenant Community and Community on State Land
7	16 July 2016	10h00 to 12h00	KwaZashuke Traditional Council and Community

In accordance with Regulation 57 of GN No. R. 543 of 18 June 2010, the comments received from I&APs on the Draft EIA Report were incorporated into the Comments and Responses Report (CRR). All comments received following the public review of the Draft EIA Report were included in the updated EIA CRR, which was also submitted to the DFFE to inform the decision for Environmental Authorisation. Copies of all the comments and the CRR are available on the Project Website. All the I&APs were notified via email, fax or post after having received written notice from the DFFE on the final decision for the uMWP-1. Legal Notices were placed as notification of the DFFE decision, and included the appeal procedure to the decision and key reasons for the decision.

#### **2.4. Engagements during the Compilation of the Draft Addendum to the Environmental Impact Assessment Report**

Various targeted engagements took place during the compilation of the additional information requested by the DFFE. This included discussions and meetings with the Environmental Authorities to clarify their requirements regarding the additional environmental work that was undertaken to address the DFFE's comments on the Final EIA Report (November 2016). Meetings related to certain of the additional studies were also held. Topic specific meetings were also held, which included meetings with the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform to discuss Biodiversity Offsets and with the KwaBhidla Traditional Council, as well as community members to present the deviation options for the R617.

#### **2.5. Environmental Management Programme**

Environmental Management Programmes (EMPrs) have been prepared for the uMWP-1 in support of the EIA. It is a detailed plan of action to ensure that the recommendations for enhancing positive impacts and/or limiting or preventing

negative environmental impacts are implemented during the project life cycle. The Pre-construction and Construction EMPs provide a comprehensive list of mitigation measures for specific elements of the uMWP-1. This EMP was amended, as necessary, to include the mitigation measures that emanated from the required Additional Specialist Studies that were undertaken.

#### **2.6. Department of Mineral Resources Environmental Impact Assessment**

The DMR EIA Process for the Quarries and Borrow Areas was a separate EIA process administered by the DMR for seeking Environmental Authorization for the quarries and borrow areas. This EIA Process was done in accordance with the EIA Regulations of 2014 (Government Notice No. R. 982 of 04 December 2014) and were approved by 25 January 2019.

  
MR SENZO MCHUNU, MP  
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

DATE: 8/8/22