

## DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND SANITATION

NO. 4357

9 February 2024

**NATIONAL WATER ACT, 1998****PROPOSED RESERVE DETERMINATION FOR WATER RESOURCES OF THE THUKELA CATCHMENTS IN THE PONGOLA-MTAMVUNA WATER MANAGEMENT AREA**

I, Senzo Mchunu, Minister of Water and Sanitation, in terms of section 16(3) of the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998) hereby publish for public comment the proposed determination of the Reserve for water resources of the Thukela catchment area, as set out in the Schedule.

Any person who wishes to submit comments on the proposed Reserve determination must submit their comments in writing within 60 days from the date of publication of this Notice by:

- (a) posting such comments to the following address:

Department of Water and Sanitation  
Private Bag X313  
Pretoria  
0001;

- (b) delivering such comments by hand to the following address:

Department of Water and Sanitation  
Ndinaye Building  
178 Francis Baard Street  
Pretoria or  
0001

- (c) electronic mail to the following address:

Email: [atwaruy@dws.gov.za](mailto:atwaruy@dws.gov.za)

Comments must be addressed to the Director: Reserve Determination and marked for the attention of Mr Yakeen Atwaru. Comments received after the closing date shall not be considered.



MR SENZO MCHUNU, MP  
MINISTER OF WATER AND SANITATION

DATE: 02/09/2023

## SCHEDULE

### DEFINITIONS

1. In this Schedule any word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned in the Act shall have the meaning so assigned and, unless the context indicates otherwise –

“**Baseflow**” means a sustained low flow in rivers during dry or fair-weather conditions and includes contribution from delayed interflow and groundwater discharge.

“**EWR**” means Ecological Water Requirements and refers to the flow patterns (magnitude, timing and duration) and water quality needed to maintain a riverine ecosystem in a particular condition.

“**Recharge**” means the addition of water to the zone of saturation, either by downward percolation of precipitation or surface water and/ or the lateral migration of groundwater from adjacent aquifers.

“**The Act**” means the National Water Act, 1998 (Act No. 36 of 1998).

### DESCRIPTION OF WATER RESOURCE

- 2 (1) The Reserve is determined for all or part of every significant water resource within the catchments of the Thukela, as set out below:

Water Management Area: Pongola-Mtamvuna  
Drainage Region: V Primary Drainage Region  
River(s): Thukela River System

- (2) The Reserve is hereby determined for all or part of the water resource referred to in sub-clause (1), which classes have been determined in Government Notice No. 3141 of 10 March 2023.

### RESERVE DETERMINATION

3 (1) The Reserve determination for the quantity component of the Rivers in the Thukela catchment include the EWR sites as illustrated in (Figure 2) of Annexure B, and the basic human needs are as set out in Table 1 of Annexure B.

(2) The Reserve determination for the quality component of the Rivers at EWR sites in the Thukela catchment are as set out in Tables 2.1 to 2.15 of Annexure B.

(3) The Reserve determination for the groundwater contribution to the Reserve for Water Quantity for the Thukela catchment is set out in Table 3.1 of Annexure B.

(4) The Reserve determination for the groundwater contribution to the Reserve for Water Quality for the Thukela catchment is set out in Tables 4.1 to 4.5 of Annexure B.

### COMMENCEMENT

4. The Reserve determinations made in this Notice shall commence on and apply from the date of publication hereof.

The Annexures to this Notice, containing the acronyms, the Reserve determination for the quantity and quality component of the rivers at EWR sites in the Thukela catchment, groundwater contribution to the Reserve for water quantity and quality for the Thukela catchment, can be accessed from:

<https://www.dws.gov.za/rdm/currentstudies/default.aspx>

or requested from:

Director: Reserve Determination  
Attention: Mr. Yakeen Atwaru  
Department of Water and Sanitation  
Ndinaye Building 5082  
178 Francis Baard Street  
Private Bag x 313  
Pretoria  
0001  
E-mail: [atwaruy@dws.gov.za](mailto:atwaruy@dws.gov.za)