

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (12/12/20/553) FOR  
Department of Water Affairs and Forestry's  
OLIFANTS RIVER WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (ORWRDP)  
INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT**

8 August 2005

Dear Stakeholder

EIA Public Participation Office  
Zitholele/Golder/ACER (Africa)/CSIR  
P O Box 6001, Halfway House  
1685, Midrand  
Tel (011) 254 4904 Fax (011) 315 0317  
Email [tpietersen@golder.co.za](mailto:tpietersen@golder.co.za)  
[www.dwaf.gov.za](http://www.dwaf.gov.za)

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)  
(12/12/20/553): PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF INFRA-STRUCTURE FOR THE OLIFANTS RIVER  
WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (ORWRDP)

- Draft Environmental Impact Report and its Summary Report available for comment
- Public review period from Thursday, 18 August 2005 to Thursday, 29 September 2005
- Invitation to public meetings

We are pleased to report that, since our previous letter of 30 March 2005, much progress has been made on the ORWRDP. The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and compilation of the Draft Environmental Impact Report have been completed, with the careful integration of findings from different specialist disciplines. This letter serves to advise you of the next steps in the EIA process.

**Draft Environmental Impact Report and its Summary Report available for comment**

The Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) contains an integrated assessment of the findings of the specialist studies, detailing potential environmental effects that the proposed project will have on the environment, as well as potential effects of the environment on the proposed project. The report is available for comment by stakeholders. In addition, a Summary Report of the findings has been prepared for those people who do not wish to work through the full Draft EIR.

A period of five weeks is available for public review of the Draft EIR (**from Thursday, 18 August 2005 to Thursday, 29 September 2005**). Thereafter, the report will be updated and submitted for consideration to and a decision by the lead authority of the EIA, the National Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT). DEAT will, in consultation with the relevant environmental authorities of the Mpumalanga and Limpopo Provinces, consider the findings of the EIA and issue a Record of Decision.

Please use the **enclosed** form to request an electronic copy (on CD) of the Draft EIR or its Summary Report if you intend to comment. The Summary Report is available in English, Afrikaans and Sepedi. In addition, the Draft EIR and the Summary Report will be available at the public places listed in the document appended to this letter, and will also be available on the DWAF ORWRDP website: [www.dwaf.gov.za](http://www.dwaf.gov.za).

**Your comment is important**

You can comment on the Draft EIR or its Summary in any of the following ways:

- Completing the comment sheet enclosed with the reports.
- Writing a letter, or producing additional written submissions.
- By email to or telephoning the public participation office.
- By attending one of four public meetings (see below).

## Public meetings

The purpose of the public meetings will be to present the findings of the EIA for comment and discussion, and for stakeholders to verify that their issues have been considered. The Draft EIR and its Summary Report will serve to focus discussions at the meetings. In addition, each of the public meetings will also have an open house, visual component during which small-group discussions with members of the EIA team will take place in the language of choice of participants.

It is important that you register for the public meetings/open houses in advance - please use the **enclosed form and return it on Thursday, 25 August 2005**. This will allow us to send you a copy of the documents in advance of the meetings. The public meetings/open houses will be held as follows:

### MOKOPANE

**Date:** Wednesday, 14 September 2005  
**Venue:** The Park Hotel  
**Time:** Open house with visual displays: 08:30 – 09:30; 13:00 – 14:00  
Public meeting: 09:30 – 13:00

### POLOKWANE

**Date:** Thursday, 15 September 2005  
**Venue:** The Ranch  
**Time:** Open house with visual displays: 08:30 – 09:30; 13:00 – 14:00  
Public meeting: 09:30 – 13:00

### BURGERSFORT

**Date:** Tuesday, 20 September 2005  
**Venue:** Municipal Chamber, Greater Tubatse Municipality  
**Time:** Open house with visual displays: 08:30 – 09:30; 13:00 – 14:00  
Public meeting: 09:30 – 13:00

### LEBOWAKGOMO

**Date:** Wednesday, 21 September 2005  
**Venue:** Civic Centre Hall, Lepelle-Nkumpi Municipality  
**Time:** Open house with visual displays: 08:30 – 09:30; 13:00 – 14:00  
Public meeting: 09:30 – 13:00

In closing, on behalf of the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry, the Project Co-ordination and Management Team and the Environmental Team, we would like to thank again the many people and organizations who have thus far contributed to the EIA and who have set aside time to meet with the EIA team. Please contact either myself or Qondile Sibiyi if you require further information at this stage. We look forward to receiving your reply form by Thursday, 25 August 2005.

Yours sincerely



### TONI PIETERSEN

#### EIA Public Participation Office

**Enclosed:** *List of public places where reports will be available  
Reply form to request a copy of the Draft Environmental Impact Report or its Summary Report and to register to attend the public meetings/open houses*

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**REPLY SHEET FOR**

- **Draft Environmental Impact Report and / or Summary Report**
  - **Public meetings / open houses**

*Please complete and return by Thursday, 25 August 2005 to:*  
Toni Pietersen / Qondile Sibiyi, EIA Public Participation Office, Zitholele/Golder,  
P O Box 6001, Halfway House, Midrand, 1685  
Tel: (011) 254 4904 Fax: (011) 315 0317 E-mail: tpietersen@golder.co.za

<b>TITLE</b>		<b>FIRST NAME</b>	
<b>INITIALS</b>		<b>SURNAME</b>	
<b>ORGANISATION</b>			
<b>ADDRESS</b>			
		<b>POSTAL CODE</b>	
<b>TEL NO</b>		<b>FAX NO</b>	
<b>EMAIL</b>			<b>CELL NO</b>
<b>DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT</b>			
I would like to receive a copy of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (please circle the appropriate block)			
By mail			YES      NO
By mail (CD, in PDF)			YES      NO
By email (in PDF, Zipped)			YES      NO
<b>SUMMARY REPORT</b>			
I would like to receive a copy of the Summary Report in the following language (please circle the appropriate blocks)			
<b>English</b>	By mail	Email	<b>Afrikaans</b>
	By mail	Email	<b>Sepedi</b>
	By mail	Email	
<b>PUBLIC MEETINGS / OPEN HOUSES</b>			
Public meeting times: 09:30 – 13:00			
Times for open house with visual displays: 08:30 – 09:30; 13:00 – 14:00			
I would like to attend the following public meeting / open house (please circle the appropriate block)			
If you have indicated yes, you will receive a Summary Draft Environmental Impact Report and map to the venue before the meeting.			
<b>MOKOPANE PUBLIC MEETING / OPEN HOUSES</b>			
I will attend the public meeting on Wednesday, 14 September 2005, at the Park Hotel in Mokopane.			YES      NO
<b>POLOKWANE PUBLIC MEETING / OPEN HOUSE</b>			
I will attend the public meeting on Thursday, 15 September 2005, at The Ranch in Polokwane.			YES      NO
<b>BURGERSFORT PUBLIC MEETING / OPEN HOUSE</b>			
I will attend the public meeting on Tuesday, 20 September 2005, at the Municipal Chamber, Greater Tlhatse Municipality in Burgersfort.			YES      NO
<b>LEBOWAKGOMO PUBLIC MEETING / OPEN HOUSE</b>			
I will attend the public meeting on Wednesday, 21 September 2005, at the Civic Centre Hall, Lepelle-Nkumpi Municipality in Lebowakgomo.			YES      NO

**COMMENTS (Please use separate sheets if necessary)**

Any comments you may have at this stage:

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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR RESPONSE AND COMMENTS**

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**LIST OF PUBLIC PLACES WHERE THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL  
IMPACT REPORT AND ITS SUMMARY REPORT WILL BE AVAILABLE  
FOR PUBLIC COMMENT FROM**

**Thursday, 18 August 2005 to Thursday, 29 September 2005**

**LIMPOPO PROVINCE**

<b>TOWN/AREA/DISTRICT</b>	<b>LOCALITY</b>	<b>CONTACT PERSON</b>	<b>TELEPHONE</b>
Fetakgomo area, Apel	Fetakgomo Mini Library	Mr Magamorele Hlakudi	(015) 622 8000
Hoedspruit	Agri Hoedspruit	Mnr Braam van der Merwe	(015) 795 5861
Jane Furse area, Makhuduthamanga	Makhuduthamanga Local Municipality	Mr Mpho Makena	(013) 265 1177
Jane Furse area, Makhuduthamanga	Makhuduthamanga District Clinic	Ms Judith Mmantshidi	(013) 265 1000
Lebowakgomo area, Atok	Lebowa Platinum Mine	Mr Robbie Nelson	(015) 620 0009
Lebowakgomo	Limpopo Economic Development Enterprise	Ms Josephine Tambane	(015) 633 4768
Mokopane area, Mogalakwena	Mogalakwena Municipality	Mrs Esther Pretorius	(015) 491 9739/ 9600
Olifantspoort area, Nebo	Klipspruit Clinic	Sister Clara Boshiela	(013) 263 1177
Polokwane	Department of Water Affairs and Forestry	Ms Sarah Mamabolo	(015) 290 1444
Polokwane	Polokwane Municipality	Mr Koot Jacobs	(015) 290 2151
Polokwane area, Seshego	Seshego Community Library	Mr Stephens Chipana	(015) 292 1276
Tzaneen area, Letsitele	Agri Letaba	Mr Louis van Rooyen	(015) 345 1817

**MPUMALANGA PROVINCE**

<b>TOWN/AREA/DISTRICT</b>	<b>LOCALITY</b>	<b>CONTACT PERSON</b>	<b>TELEPHONE</b>
Burgersfort	Greater Tubatse Municipality	Ms Sheila Nkonyane	(013) 231 7815
Burgersfort area, Lebalelo	Lebalelo Water User Association	Mr Malcolm Sales	(013) 216 8000
Groblersdal	Groblersdal Public Library	Ms Marnie Buys	(013) 262 3056
Jane Furse area, Sekhukhune	Tshehla Trust Office	Mr Sunset Mmushi	072 721 8244
Marble Hall	Marble Hall Library	Mr Sophania Matau	(013) 261 9054
Nelspruit	Department of Water Affairs and Forestry	Mr Johan van Aswegen	(013) 932 2042
Roosenekal	Roosenekal Public Library	Ms Jana Spangler	(013) 273 0056
Steelpoort	Steelpoort Post Office	Mr Aaron Moyane	(013) 230 9105