

Our Ref: R0001002570-00

25 August 2025

Dear Sir/Madam

NOTIFICATION OF APPLICATIONS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AUTHORISATIONS FOR THE PROPOSED PHASE 2D RE-ALIGNMENT AS WELL AS THE PROPOSED BREAK PRESSURE RESERVOIR (BPR) ON PORTION 8 OF THE FARM GROOTHOEK AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, IN THE FETAKGOMO TUBATSE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, WITHIN THE SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY, AND THE PROPOSED PHASE 2F PIPELINE RE-ALIGNMENT AND ASSOCIATED INFRASTRUCTURE, IN THE FETAKGOMO TUBATSE AND LEPELLE NKUMPI LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES, WITHIN THE CAPRICORN AND GREATER SEKHUKHUNE DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES, IN THE LIMPOPO PROVINCE

Notice is hereby given in terms of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014, under the National Environmental Management Act (No.107 of 1998) ("NEMA"), that the **Lebalelo Water User Association (LWUA)**, on behalf of the **Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)**, proposes the development of **Phase 2D** within the Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality (Sekhukhune District Municipality), and **Phase 2F** within the Fetakgomo Tubatse and Lepelle Nkumpi Local Municipalities (Capricorn and Sekhukhune District Municipalities), as components of the larger Olifants Management Model Bulk Raw Water Study Phase (OMMP-BRWSP) project, in the Limpopo Province. The proposed construction of the new infrastructure, along with the associated access and internal roads, triggers Listed Activities in terms of the 2014 EIA Regulations Government Notice (GN) R983. Therefore, Environmental Authorisations (EAs) in terms of the Basic Assessment (BA) process are required for the respective phases.

The Zutari Ndodana Joint Venture (ZNJV) has been appointed as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to prepare and submit the applications for EA to the competent authority, the National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE).

Project Background and Scope

Phase 2 of the Olifants River Water Resources Development Project (ORWRDP-2) is a DWS project, which underwent an EIA process and obtained a positive Record of Decision (RoD) from the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA¹) in 2006 in terms of the Environmental Conservation Act, No.73 of 1989 (ECA). After many appeals by large organisations, including the Kruger National Park, the Minister decided to grant the Revised RoD (RRoD) (Reference: **03/2/4**), dated 16 October 2006. The approved ORWRDP-2 consists of various phases. These were previously implemented by the Trans-Caledon Tunnel Authority (TCTA). The phases are designed and implemented in a phased manner, depending on need and availability of finances. For this reason, phase-specific Environmental Management Programmes (EMPRs) are developed and submitted for approval to the competent authority.

The ORWRDP-2 has since been reconstituted to become the OMMP-BRWSP in recent years, with the Lebalelo Water User Association (LWUA) acting as the implementing agent for the following portions of the project, with the focus of these applications being on Phase 2D and Phase 2F:

- ▶ Phase 2B
- ▶ Phase 2B+
- ▶ Phase 2D², and
- ▶ Phase 2F

The Phase 2D component comprises a 24 km long pipeline with a diameter of 1,200 mm, extending from the

¹ Now referred to as the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE).

² Changes in this phase will be administratively implemented as Phase 2H.

Steelpoort Pump Station to Mooihoek [authorised by the Revised Record of Decision (RRoD) in 2006 (reference: **03/2/4** and **12/12/20/553**) and subsequently the phase specific EMPr in 2016 (ref: **14/12/16/3/1/9/21**)]. For this application, LWUA, on behalf of the DWS, seeks authorisation for the raw water pipeline segment from the Mooihoek Reservoir to the proposed Mooihoek Break Pressure Reservoir (BPR) (approximately 2.79 km in length), the BPR itself located on Portion 8 of the Farm Groothoek 256 KT, and associated infrastructure. This also includes a section in the centre of the alignment, approximately 1 km in length, which has been encroached upon since the EA was granted in 2016. Additionally, authorisation is requested for the required access and internal roads necessary for the construction and operation of the entire Phase 2D alignment. The pipeline is estimated to have a throughput of 1.318 m³/s [equivalent to 1,318 litres per second (l/s)]. A 40 m servitude is proposed, consisting of a temporary construction servitude of 25 m and a permanent servitude of 15 m.

The Phase 2F component, on the other hand, comprises approximately 44 km of pipeline intended to convey water to the Olifantpoort WTW, thereby augmenting the water supply to Polokwane and surrounding rural areas (authorised by EA reference: **14/12/16/3/3/1/1626**) in 2017. This application includes the re-alignment of approximately 3.35 km of the pipeline segment. Additionally, as part of the project infrastructure, access and internal roads are required for the construction of the entire Phase 2F alignment. The pipeline is anticipated to have a diameter of 1,200 mm and an estimated throughput of 1.563 m³/s (equivalent to 1,563 l/s). A 40 m servitude is proposed, consisting of a temporary construction servitude of 25 m and a permanent servitude of 15 m.

Furthermore, since inception, the project has acquired the status of strategic importance, and recently on 05 March 2023 the project was classified as a Strategic Integrated Project (SIP) under the SIP 19 (i.e., Water and Sanitation Infrastructure Portfolio). As such, it is critical that the project must be expedited in terms of Schedule 2 [Section 17(2)] of the Infrastructure Development Act, No. 23 of 2014. The purpose of this piece of legislation is to provide facilitation and coordination of public infrastructure development which is of economic significance or social importance in South Africa and to ensure that infrastructure development in the country is given priority in planning, approval, and implementation.

Draft BAR Availability and Participation

The Draft Basic Assessment Reports (BARs), compiled in terms of the NEMA and the EIA Regulations GN R982 of 2014, are now available for comment for a period of 30 days until **Friday, the 3rd of October 2025**.

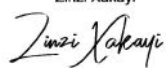
Should you wish to access the full Draft BAR and associated appendices, please use the following link:
https://www.zutari.com/ommp-brwsp-2d_2f-public-participation/

Should you wish to be registered as an Interested and Affected Party (I&AP) or wish to comment, please register using the link above. Alternatively, contact the Zutari Public Participation office at:

- **Email:** PPP@zutari.com
- **Phone:** +27 12 427 2072
- **Post:** PO Box 74381, Lynnwood Ridge, Pretoria, 0040

Kindly extend the notice and invitation to comment to any other I&APs you may be aware of.

Yours faithfully,

Zinzi Xakayi

Signed by Zinzi Portia Xakayi, Zinzi.Xakayi@zutari.com
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