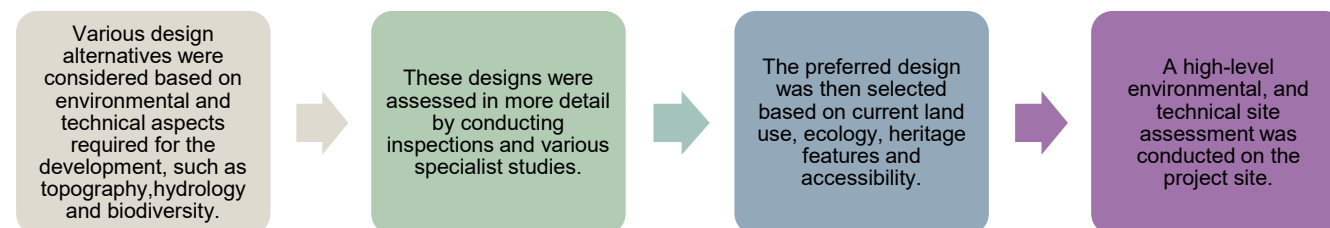


6. What is a Basic Assessment process?

- ▶ This phase requires an EA in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, No. 107 of 1998 (NEMA) and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2014.
 - ▶ Once an application for EA has been made, the Basic Assessment (BA) commences and focuses on a broad range of issues. The BA Report (BAR) must provide sufficient information to facilitate an understanding of these issues.
 - ▶ Specialist input is used to identify the impacts, with ecological (flora, fauna and wetlands), social, heritage and traffic specialists all forming part of the team.
- ▶ The goal of the BA process is to:
 - Assess activities of which whose impacts are generally known and manageable
 - Consider the potential environmental impacts of the proposed activity
 - Assess possible mitigation measures
 - Assess whether there are any significant issues or impacts that might require further investigation
 - Invite public comment and input on the proposed project

7. What has been done to date?



8. Why are we sending you this notice?

A development like this requires permission from the Competent Authority to proceed, and anyone who is interested in or potentially affected by the project can take part in the regulatory process.

- ▶ The Zutari Ndodana Joint Venture (ZNJV) was appointed by the Lebalelo Water User Association (LWUA) as the independent Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) to manage the new application for an EA for this phase.
 - ▶ This includes the Public Participation Process (PPP), in accordance with Chapter 6 of the EIA Regulations.
 - ▶ The PPP is crucial, as the public can help us to identify the possible positive and negative impacts the project might have on people and the environment.
 - ▶ A BAR is compiled using all the specialist studies and various other pertinent project information, and this report is made available to the Interested and Affected Parties (I&APs) for a period of 30 calendar days.
- ▶ This is referred to as the “public comment period”.
 - ▶ All comments received during the public comment period will be captured in a Comments and Response Report (CRR), which will be incorporated into the final BAR.
 - ▶ The Competent Authority, which is the National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), must give or deny permission for the project after they have assessed the BAR, specialist reports, and comments received from I&APs like yourself.

9. How to get involved

If you would like to register as an I&AP to receive information, if you want to comment on the project, or if you have any questions, please contact us via any of the following channels:

✉	PPP@Zutari.com	✉	PO Box 74381, Lynnwood Ridge, Pretoria, 0040
☎	012 427 2072		

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

Please submit your comments no later than **Friday, 03 October 2025**.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION DOCUMENT FOR THE OMMP-BRWSP PHASE 2D COMPONENT

1. What is planned?

PHASE 2D – PIPELINE FROM STEELPOORT PUMP STATION TO MOOIHOEK (24 KM)

This comprises a 24 km long pipeline with a diameter of 1,200 mm, extending from the 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 Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) in 2016 (ref: **14/12/16/3/1/9/21**)]. For this application, the Lebalelo Water User Association (LWUA), on behalf of the Department of Water and Sanitation (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 Environmental Authorisation (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.

PROJECT LOCATION

Phase 2D specifically affects the Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality (FTLM), which forms part of the Sekhukhune District Municipality (SDM) in Limpopo Province. The pipeline route begins in Ward 2 of the municipality, passing through Wards 5, 31, 12, 7, 11, and terminating in Ward 19.

The route also crosses the jurisdiction of a single tribal authority, that of Pulana Maroga. Mining operations in the area include Samancor Chrome and Modikwa Platinum Mine, a joint venture between Implats and African Rainbow Minerals.

AFFECTED TRIBAL AUTHORITIES

The realignment for which we are applying affects the jurisdiction of the Pulana Maroga Traditional Authority (Mooihoek 255 KT and Groothoek 256 KT) as well as that of Samancor Chrome Ltd (Doornbosch 294 KT).



2. Where is it planned?

The Phase 2D project area spans over Fetakgomo Tubatse Local Municipality within Sekhukhune District Municipality in the Limpopo Province.

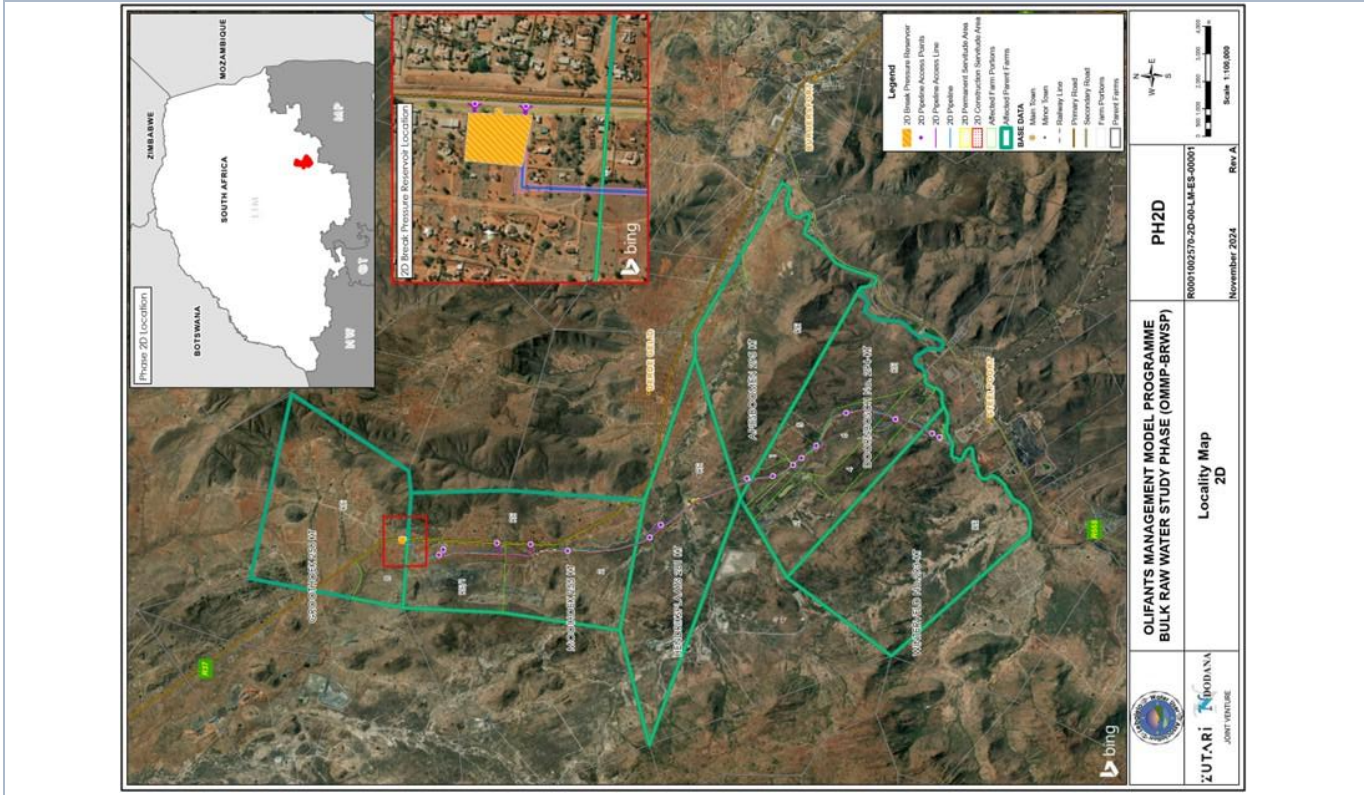


Figure 1 | Locality Map of the current Phase 2D pipeline alignment.

3. Who is undertaking this Project?

- ▶ The LWUA appointed the ZNJV for the provision of professional services for the Olifants Management Model Programme Bulk Raw Water Study Phase (OMMP-BRWSP).
- ▶ Phase 2 of the Olifants River Water Resources Development Project (ORWRDP-2) is a Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) project, which underwent an EIA process and obtained a positive Record of Decision (RoD) from the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA)¹ 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) (ref: **03/2/4** and **12/12/20/553**), dated 16 October 2006, and subsequently the phase specific Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) in 2016 (ref: **14/12/16/3/1/9/21**)
- ▶ The ORWRDP-2 has since been reconstituted to become the OMMP-BRWSP in recent years, with the LWUA acting as the implementing agent.
- ▶ Since inception, the project has acquired the status of strategic importance, and 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).

4. Listed activities

The following Listed Activities will be applied for in terms of the NEMA and its EIA Regulations [General Notice (GN) R982 of 2014]:

- ▶ Listing Notice 1, GN R983 of 2014 (BA process)
 - Activity 9(i)(ii)
 - Activity 12(ii)(a)(c)
 - Activity 19
 - Activity 24(ii)
 - Activity 56(ii)
- ▶ Listing Notice 3, GN R985 of 2014 (Provincial BA)
 - Activity 4(i)(ee)
 - Activity 12(e)(i)(ii)
 - Activity 14(ii)(a)(c)(e)(i)(ff)(hh)
 - Activity 18(e)(i)(ee)(gg)(hh)

5. I heard of this project years ago. Why is this process happening again?

The approved 2016 EMPr (ref.14/12/16/3/1/9/21) included the development of the new Ga-Mathipa reservoir close to the existing Mooihoek reservoir. Due to scope changes, cost elements, and the proposed phased approach of developments for the Phase 2D projects, the construction of the Ga-Mathipa reservoir will be shelved. Instead, the new proposal includes the construction of the BPR on portion 8 of the farm Groothoek 256 KT.

Additionally, there was a need to realign the existing pipeline route in order to minimise the impact of encroachment along the 2016 EMPr.

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