



Wes-Kaapse Provinsiale Parlement  
Western Cape Provincial Parliament  
IPalamente yePhondo leNtshona Koloni

Ref: WCPP 11/4/8

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND  
DEVELOPMENT PLANNING**

*Tuesday 20 June 2023 (at 13:00), Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams*

**PRESENT**

**Members**

**Democratic Alliance**

Murray, CA  
Sileku, I (Alternate)  
Van der Westhuizen, AP (Chairperson)

**African National Congress**

Marran, P

**GOOD**

De Villiers, PT

**Freedom Front Plus**

Marais, PJ

**Apologies**

Mr D America, Member of the Committee (DA)  
Dr I Meyer, Minister of Agriculture  
Dr M Sebope, Head of Department - Department of Agriculture  
Ms K Shippey, Chief Director - Environmental Sustainability - Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning  
Mr G Arendse, Chief Director - Environmental Quality - Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning  
Ms M Laros, Director - Biodiversity and Coastal Management - Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning  
Mr J Retief, Manager - Stakeholder and Communication Services - Western Cape Provincial Parliament

**The following persons were in attendance:**

**National Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development**

Mr B Makhafola, Director - Food and Safety

**Western Cape Department of Agriculture**

Mr D Jacobs, Acting Head of Department

Ms A Petersen, Director - Sustainable Resource Management

**Agri-Western Cape**

Mr J Strydom, Chief Executive Officer

**National Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment**

Mr C Ndou, Acting Chief Director - Forestry Policy Management

Mr W Smit, Deputy Director - Forestry Regulation and Oversight

**Western Cape Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning**

Mr A Mohamed, Chief Director - Environmental Governance, Policy Coordination and Enforcement

Mr A Gaffoor, Director - Strategic and Operational Support

Ms N Davis-Wolmarans, Director - Pollutions and Chemical Management

Ms A Rossouw, Directorate Planning and Policy Coordination

**CapeNature**

Ms C Birss, Executive Director - Biodiversity Capabilities

**Department of the Premier**

Ms A Muller, State Law Adviser

**Ministry of Agriculture Western Cape**

Ms P van Jaarsveld, Assistant Administrative Secretary (Leader of Government Business)

**National Department of Water and Sanitation**

Dr S Phillips, Director-General

Mr X Zwane, Deputy Director-General - Regulation, Compliance and Enforcement

Mr L Manus Acting Deputy Director-General Infrastructure

Ms Z Bila-Mupariwa, Provincial Head Western Cape

Ms N Moripe, Chief Director

Ms Odette Smit, Personal Assistant

## Western Cape Provincial Parliament

Ms S Niekerk, Procedural Officer  
Ms N Mshumpela, Committee Assistant  
Mr S Hassam, Information Technology Assistant  
Ms C Morris, Information Technology Assistant  
Adv R Maasdorp, Legal Adviser  
Mr T Keswa, Public Education and Outreach Manager  
Ms N Visser, Researcher

### 1. Opening and welcome

The Chairperson opened the meeting and welcomed the members of the Committee, the departmental officials as well as the officials from the Western Cape Provincial Parliament.

### 2. Briefing by the National Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development on the Agricultural Product Standards Amendment Bill [B 15B—2021]

The National Department briefed the Committee on the Amendment Bill with specific reference to content, proposed amendments to specific clauses as well as the reasons and impact thereof. A list of affected stakeholders who were consulted during the drafting of the amendment bill was provided to the Committee.

The Committee deliberated.

### 3. Briefing by the National Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment on the National Veld and Forest Fire Amendment Bill [B 24B—2021]

The National Department briefed the Committee on the Amendment Bill with specific reference to content, proposed amendments to specific clauses as well as the reasons and impact thereof. A list of affected stakeholders who were consulted during the drafting of the amendment bill was provided to the Committee.

The Committee deliberated.

### 4. Briefing by the National Department of Water and Sanitation on the progress in the construction work of the Clanwilliam Dam and Brandvlei Dam

The Department provided the Committee with the progress on the Clanwilliam Dam by outlining the project background, implementation model and project finance. The planned budget of R3 920 million and expenditure to date of R1 058 million was provided to the Committee. Other key matters relating to affected properties, objections to evacuate and matters pertaining to the realignment of the N7 were explained. The completion date of the project was April 2028. The completed Brandvlei Dam Canal Project was also expanded upon.

Water allocation in terms of irrigation, domestic and industry usage were provided to the Committee as well as the long-term plans to ensure water security in the Western Cape. In terms of the latter, the Committee was provided with the Department's general water resources planning and management approach, which was aimed at the fair and sustainable allocation of water.

The proposed bulk conveyance infrastructure from the raised Clanwilliam Dam wall was highlighted. The background and need for the Project was explained as well as the bridging study objectives. The project area and the related Government Water Schemes were emphasised as well as the proposed water allocation of the additional yield. Specific mention was made of the Jan Dissels Scheme Design and the Ebenhaeser Restitution and Augmentation Scheme, and the associated cost estimates were provided to the Committee.

The Department further outlined its approach to the fair allocation of water and ensuring its sustainability in the Western Cape by providing the Committee with the reasoning for identifying the need for Water Resources Operating Rules. To this end, licensed versus operational water allocations were explained as well as the typical outcome of Water Resources Operating Rules for Western Cape systems.

The impact of climate change on water resources and the Department's approach and response to climate change and its relation to the water sector in the Western Cape was expanded upon. So too was the current dam level situation.

In conclusion, the Department placed emphasis on collaboration and partnerships to resolve challenges in the water sector and to strengthen governance and accountability.

The Committee deliberated.

#### **4.1 Resolutions/Actions**

4.1.1 The Committee RESOLVED that it would:

4.1.1.1 Forward a letter of appreciation to the Department of Water and Sanitation to thank them for an informative presentation; and

4.1.1.2 Continue monitoring the progress with the construction work of the Clanwilliam dam.

4.1.2 The Committee further RESOLVED that it would, through the Western Cape Department of Agriculture:

4.1.2.1 Extend its condolences to the farmers in the Western Cape who have not only lost family members during the heavy rains, but also to those who have lost infrastructure or suffered considerable infrastructural damages;

4.1.2.2 Express its appreciation to those who have opened up private routes so that produce, specifically citrus, could reach the Cape Town port for export; and

4.1.2.3 Express its appreciation to the Gift of the Givers for the humanitarian relief provided to those negatively affected by the heavy rains and flooding in the Western Cape.

#### **5. Discussion on the public participation process to be followed in respect of the Agricultural Product Standards Amendment Bill [B 15B—2021] and the the National Veld and Forest Fire Amendment Bill [B 24B—2021]**

The Chairperson provided the Committee with a proposal for public engagement on the aforementioned amendment bills that included public participation methods and tools for creating public awareness.

5.1 The Committee RESOLVED that:

5.1.1 While the two amendment bills deal with different national departments, it will advertise the amendment bills concurrently and invite members of the public to respond on either of the amendment Bills;

- 5.1.2 Advertisements be placed in the Weekend Argus and Die Burger (Saturday edition) and on the social media platforms of the Western Cape Provincial Parliament ;
- 5.1.3 Members of the public be given a reasonable time to comment;
- 5.1.4 Members of the public be given an opportunity to comment by sending voice notes on WhatsApp;
- 5.1.5 Members of the public be invited to indicate whether they would like to appear before the Committee, be it virtually or in person, to make a verbal submission based on a written submission received;
- 5.1.6 Based on the strength of public input received, it would be decided whether to engage wider by conducting public hearings in various venues throughout the province or whether public hearings would be limited to virtual meetings.

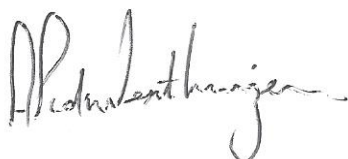
## **6. Consideration and adoption of Draft Committee Minutes**

The Chairperson submitted the Draft Committee Minutes of 25 April 2023, which were considered and adopted.

## **7. Closing**

The Chairperson expressed his appreciation to the members for their active participation in the meeting and also to the officials for their contribution to the success of the meeting. Particular appreciation was expressed to the National Departments and their willingness to respond to questions that were not related to the subject matter under discussion. The Chairperson further wished members well during the upcoming constituency period.

The meeting adjourned at 17:10.



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**MR AP VAN DER WESTHUIZEN, MPP**  
**CHAIRPERSON: STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING**

Date: .....25 July 2023.....