



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

Ref: 11/4/8

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**JOINT MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES ON ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND
DEVELOPMENT PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM AND AGRICULTURE**

Tuesday, 16 February 2016 (at 11:00), Committee Room 2, 4th Floor, 7 Wale Street, Cape Town

PRESENT

Members

Democratic Alliance

Lentit, RB (Chairperson: Environmental Affairs and Development Planning)
Maseko, LM
Max, LH
Schäfer, BA (Chairperson: Economic Development, Tourism and Agriculture)

African National Congress

Beerwinkel, CF
Davids, SW
Dijana, TM

Economic Freedoms Fighters

Joseph, BD

The following officials were in attendance:

Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning

Mr A Barnes, Chief Director: Development Planning
Mr Z Toefy, Director: Development Management Region 1
Mr H Fortuin, Director: Development Management Region 2

Department of Local Government

Mr C Deiner, Chief Director: Disaster Management and Fire Rescue Services
Mr E du Toit, Deputy Director: Fire Brigade Services

Department of Water and Sanitation

Ms A Petersen, Director: Institutional Establishment

Mr N Nthungeni, Deputy Director: Water Management

Mr T Khosa, Manager

1. Opening and Welcome

The Chairperson opened the meeting and welcomed the members of the Committees.

2. Briefing by the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning on the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process relating to the construction of farm dams

The Department proceeded to brief the Committees on the relevant legislation and Listing Notices applicable to the EIA process relating to the construction of dams. Emphasis was placed on the Basic Assessment Process and the time-frames attached to it. The Public Participation Process was outlined as well as the Appeal Process to be followed when environmental authorisations are issued in terms of the relevant Regulations.

3. Briefing by the Department of Water and Sanitation on water licences for farmers in the agricultural sector

The Department proceeded to brief the Committees on the status of the Water Use Licence Applications, challenges experienced and their action plan in finalising backlogs.

4. Briefing by the Department of Local Government's Disaster Management Directorate on their Response Plan for fires that impact on farmland in the Western Cape

The Department proceeded to brief the Committees on the support provided to farm owners in combatting fires by outlining their Risk and Action Plan, pertinent focus areas and financial implications.

5. Recommendations/Actions

5.1 The Standing Committee on Environmental Affairs and Development Planning REQUESTED that the Departments of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning and Water and Sanitation creates a platform where all water licence applicants can engage with government regarding the processes of EIA's and water licence applications.

5.2 The Committees REQUESTED the following information from the Department of Water and Sanitation:

- 5.2.1 A report on the number of water licenses that were issued in the Western Cape since 2014 to people classified as Historically Disadvantaged Individuals;
- 5.2.2 The timeline for the launch of the Electronic Application System for the processing of water licensing applications;
- 5.2.3 A detailed report on the water licences backlog in the Western Cape since 2014, outlining the reasons why licences have not been issued, the amount of licenses outstanding since January 2014, and the duration that applicants wait to have licences approved; and
- 5.2.4 A report on the number of municipalities that have contravened the Water Act (Act 36 of 1998) and the court cases, if any, that have taken place as a result of this contravention.

- 5.3 The Committees further REQUESTED that the Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning provide it with a list of government departments and municipalities that have Climate Change Adaptation Plans in place.
- 5.4 In addition, the Committees RESOLVED that the Standing Committee on Economic Opportunities, Tourism and Agriculture:
- 5.4.1 Invite the Department of Local Government's Disaster Risk Management Directorate to update the Committee on Fires in the Western Cape as well as on the support provided to farm owners in combatting fires; and
- 5.4.2 Engage with the Minister of Economic Opportunities to set up, through the Department of Agriculture, an extensive water symposium with major stakeholders and organisations on the process of applying for water licenses, general water issues, and the ways in which red tape can be removed in the process.

The meeting adjourned at 10h36.

MR RB LENTIT, MPP

CHAIRPERSON: STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

DATE: _____

MS BA SCHÄFER, MPP

CHAIRPERSON: STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM AND AGRICULTURE



DATE: _____

