

AGENDA ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 25 NOVEMBER 2010**7.1.9 GEORGE MUNICIPALITY DROUGHT MANAGEMENT POLICY LM/lm**
[6.2.2.1]**PURPOSE**

To approve a drought management policy for the George Municipality.

BACKGROUND

The George Municipality must have a Drought Management Policy in place to address possible future drought situations, periods of low rainfall, or insufficient raw water resources to address the needs of the residents of George. In a letter addressed to the Mayor of George, and dated 4 November 2009, the provincial Minister for Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning, mr Anton Bredell, requested that the George Municipality draw up a drought management policy that indicated specific measures to be taken when water resources (of dams / rivers) drop to certain levels. Attached as Annexure "A" to the agenda is a copy of the letter.

A drought management policy workshop was held on 15 July 2010 in Council Chambers. Councillors and officials were invited to attend. Certain changes were suggested and the necessary amendments were made. The policy was again circulated to all attending parties for final comment. Final comments were included where relevant.

Attached as annexure "B" to the agenda is the proposed drought management policy for consideration.

COMMENTS: DEPARTMENT: COMMUNITY SAFETY

It is imperative that at times of a disaster caused by drought to have proper preventative procedures and systems in place to alleviate the situation.

The other likely effects due to a water shortage should also be noted. Some of the most likely effects of a drought could be:

- Bankruptcy of Farmers
- Bankruptcy of Businesses
- Malnutrition
- Unemployment
- Diseases
- Urbanization (due to bankruptcy of farmers)

The Drought Management Policy is therefore supported.

AGENDA ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 25 NOVEMBER 2010**COMMENTS: DEPARTMENT: FINANCIAL SERVICES**

The implementation of a formal drought management policy is supported.

The tariffs to be implemented when the policy is enforced must be included in the formal tariff list that is annually approved by Council.

Practical implementation of the various punitive tariffs will have to be synchronised as far as possible with actual meter reading dates.

OPSOMMING

Om moontlike toekomstige droogtes, tye van lae reënval of onvoldoende rouwaterbronne om aan die behoeftes van die inwoners van George te voorsien, is 'n droogte bestuursbeleid opgestel. Hierdie beleid bevat spesifieke aksies wat uitgevoer moet word wanneer die water bronne (damme/riviere) tot sekere vlakke daal. Die opstel van 'n droogte bestuursbeleid is opgestel op versoek van die provinsiale Minister van Plaaslike Regering, Omgewingsake en Ontwikkelings beplanning, in 'n brief aan die Burgermeester gedateer 4 November 2009.

Discussion

Die Waarnemende Munisipale Bestuurder noem dat 'n aanbeveling (b) bygevoeg moet word ten einde die Waarnemende Munisipale Bestuurder en die Direkteur: Siviele Ingenieursdienste in staat te stel om implikasies ten opsigte van die watertariewe, vanweë die styging van die damvlak, administratief af te handel.

Raadsheer De Swardt verneem vanweë verskeie publieke navrae, wanneer die aangeleentheid oor die watertariewe hersien sal word.

Die Waarnemende Munisipale Bestuurder noem dat in terme van die beleid, moet die damvlak vir 60 dae 'n persentasie van 60% bereik het alvorens die tariewe dienoreenkomstig aangepas kan word.

Die Uitvoerende Burgemeester verneem na die hoeveelheid/persentasie water per dag wat vanaf die nuwe aanleg (rioolwatersuiweringsprojek) na die dam gepomp word.

Die Waarnemende Direkteur: Siviele Ingenieursdienste rapporteer dat daar vir 'n redelike tydperk bedryfsprobleme by die aanleg ondervind word. Hy noem dat geen water vir genoemde tydperk vanaf die aanleg na die dam gepomp is nie.

At this stage, the time being 09:30, the Executive Mayor requested an adjournment. The meeting reconvened at 09:48.

AGENDA ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 25 NOVEMBER 2010**RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL**

- (a) that the attached drought management policy for the George Municipality be approved; **[CES]**
- (b) that the application of the drought management policy be delegated to the ~~Acting~~ Municipal Manager in consultation with the Director: Civil Engineering Services. **[AMM;CES]**

ANNEXURES "A" – "B"

AGENDA ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 25 NOVEMBER 2010

ITEM 7.1.9 ANNEXURE "A"

NOV.03.2009 11:53 0214834493

LOCAL GOVERNMENT & HOUSING

#1080 P.001 /001



Ministry of Local Government, Environmental Affairs and
Development Planning

Ministerie van Plaaslike Regering, Omgewingsake en
Ontwikkelingsbeplanning

lofisi yoMphathiswa womMandla, imiCimbi esiNgqongileyo noCwangciso
loPhuhliso

Ref LG 11/2/3/2

To: Eden District Municipality
Bitou Local Municipality
Knysna Local Municipality
George Local Municipality
Mossel Bay Local Municipality
Hessequa Local Municipality



cc: Swellendam Local Municipality
Beaufort West Local Municipality

Dear Mayor

My previous letter of September 2009, requesting your municipality to implement measures to address the current drought/ water shortage situation, has reference.

The Department of Water Affairs agreed that we are in the middle of a 1:100 – 1:150 year drought. Further to this, the South African Weather Services is forecasting below normal rainfall for the next three months and the current situation is therefore likely to worsen. In this context, I am very concerned that none of the affected municipalities has achieved a reduction in water consumption of 30% as requested in my previous communiqué. Indeed, it seems that a reduction of only 10-20% has been achieved in the last six months.

It is therefore clear that the situation is increasingly severe and that municipalities must take more drastic steps to mitigate and curb consumption in order to reach the 30% reduction target.

Our Provincial Disaster Management Centre facilitated a meeting in George on 21 October and the following was resolved:

- Eden District Municipality will convene bi-weekly technical meetings with municipalities and key stakeholders to accelerate the implementation of measures to reduce consumption and implementation of projects to source additional water (e.g. through re-use and boreholes). HB
- Affected municipal councils will be asked to consider a resolution to declare a state of local disaster in their respective areas. NB
- Each municipality will draw up a drought management policy that indicates specific measures to be taken when water resources (of dams / rivers) drop to certain levels HB
- The Public Awareness Campaign will be intensified HB
- The Department of Water Affairs will:
 - Develop a strategy to verify and validate water abstractions
 - Lead the process regarding the exploitation of ground water resources within the Eden District
 - Lead Drought Management Committee meetings in Cape Town on a bi-weekly basis
- Provincial Treasury will follow up with National Treasury on emergency tariffs LHF

1080 P.001 /001

AGENDA ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 25 NOVEMBER 2010**ITEM 7.1.9 ANNEXURE "A" CONTINUED**

NOV.03.2009 11:53 0214634493

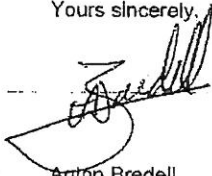
LOCAL GOVERNMENT & HOUSING

#1080 P.002 /002

I am pleased to confirm that the Provincial Disaster Management Centre and Provincial Treasury have secured R53 million in emergency funding from National Government for Knysna, George and Mossel Bay. This funding will be channeled through the regional Department of Water Affairs, and it is important for your municipality to ensure 100% spending by March 2010. My Centre together with Provincial Treasury is continuously engaging with National Treasury to secure additional funding in order to implement emergency interventions. Please note that my Centre, together with the Department of Water Affairs and Provincial and National Treasury, will be monitoring the implementation of projects and spending of allocated emergency funds. HB

I look forward to positive feedback on the implementation of the above resolutions.

Yours sincerely,



Anton Bredell
Minister: Local Government, Environmental Affairs and Development Planning

cc Municipal Manager

AGENDA ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 25 NOVEMBER 2010

ITEM 7.1.9 ANNEXURE "B"

GEORGE MUNICIPALITY

DROUGHT MANAGEMENT POLICY

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

Water is the most basic and essential resource needed to sustain life, and lack of water can lead to serious sanitation and health risk.

As per the Disaster Management Act, 57 of 2002:

"Disaster" means a progressive or sudden, widespread or localised, natural or human occurrence which causes or threatens to cause:

Death, injury or disease;
Damage to property, infrastructure or the environment; or
Disruption to the life of a community; and
Is of a magnitude that exceeds the ability of those affected by the disaster to cope with its effects using only their own resources.

Natural disasters occur when a natural hazard or event affects humans. Vulnerability of humans during a disaster, caused by lack of appropriate emergency management, leads to social/human, economic and environmental impact.

A disaster is an unforeseen event and cannot be planned for, but how certain events can be managed can be planned for.

Water Services Act (Act No 108 Of 1997)

I. The Water Services Act defines the following:

§ Water Services Authority:

Means a Municipality, including a District or Rural Council as defined in the Local Government Transition Act, 1993, responsible for ensuring access to water services

Where, water services:

Means water supply services and sanitation services

§ Water Services Provider:

Means any person who provides water services to consumers or to another Water Services Institution, but does not include a Water Services Intermediary

AGENDA ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 25 NOVEMBER 2010**ITEM 7.1.9 ANNEXURE "B" CONTINUED****ξ Water Services Institution:**

Means a Water Services Authority, a water services provider, a Water Board and a Water Services Committee

II. A Water Services Authority has, amongst others, the following obligation in terms of the Act

Duty to provide access to water services, which includes:

- ξ a duty to all consumers or potential consumers in its area of jurisdiction to progressively ensure efficient, affordable, economical, sustainable access to water services
- ξ in emergency situations a Water Services Authority must take reasonable steps to provide basic water supply and basic sanitation services to any person within its area of jurisdiction and may do so at the cost of that authority
- ξ a Water Services Authority may impose reasonable limitations on the use of water services

III. Norms and standards for tariffs in terms of the Act:

in prescribing the norms and standards, the Minister must consider, among other factors-

- ξ the financial sustainability of the water services in the geographic area in question;
- ξ the recovery of costs reasonably associated with providing the water services;
- ξ the redemption period of any loans for the provision of water services;
- ξ the need to provide for drought and excess water availability

IV. Offences in terms of the Act

no person may continue the wasteful use of water after being called upon to stop by the Minister, a Province or any Water Services Authority, and any person who contravenes this stipulation is guilty of an offence and liable, on conviction, to a fine or to imprisonment or to both such fine and imprisonment

V. Right of access to basic water supply and sanitation

everyone has a right of access to basic water supply and basic sanitation.

every Water Services Institution must take reasonable measures to realise these rights

every Water Services Authority must, in its Water Services Development Plan, provide for measures to realise these rights

AGENDA ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 25 NOVEMBER 2010**ITEM 7.1.9 ANNEXURE "B" CONTINUED****VI. Basic water supply**

The minimum standard for basic water supply services is -

- § the provision of appropriate education in respect of water use; and
- § a minimum quantity of potable water of 25 litres per person per day or 6 kilolitres per household per month –
- § At a minimum flow rate of not less than 10 litres per minute;
- § Within 200 meters of a household; and
- § With an effectiveness such that no consumer is without a supply for more than seven full days in any year

VII Provision of basic water supply and basic sanitation to have preference

If the water services provided by a Water Services Institution are unable to meet the requirements of all its existing consumers, it must give preference to the provision of basic water supply and basic sanitation to them

Where

"basic water supply" means the prescribed minimum standard of water supply services necessary for the reliable supply of a sufficient quantity and quality of water to households, including informal households, to support life and personal hygiene

George Municipality is the Water Services Authority and the Water Services Provider and thus has a "catchment to consumer" responsibility to the residents of George to:

- Ensure sufficient raw water resources to accommodate current and future needs;
- To deliver safe drinking water at the point of consumption;
- Ensure basic water to sustain life and prevent sanitation and health risk;
- To discharge effluent of an acceptable standard back to rivers.

A letter addressed to the Mayor was received from the Minister for Local Govt, Environmental Affairs & Development Planning (LGDP) in the Western Cape in November 2009, requesting all Local Municipalities in the Southern Cape to draw up a drought management policy that indicates specific measures to be taken when water resources (dams/rivers) drop to certain levels.

It is essential that George Municipality has a Drought Management Policy in place to implement emergency measures when required to do so.

This policy addresses the state of the raw water resources that supply the George Municipal area, and the action to be taken when certain milestones are reached.

AGENDA ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 25 NOVEMBER 2010**ITEM 7.1.9 ANNEXURE "B" CONTINUED****2. STATUS OF RAW WATER RESOURCES AND ACTIONS TO BE TAKEN****2A. Garden Route Dam volume between 45% and 60%; Malgas River Pumping Scheme between 45% and 60% of allowable pumping volume; all other schemes optimally utilised:**

1. The mechanical irrigation of gardens is prohibited;
2. Gardens may be watered during the following period only, i.e. between 19:00 to 21:00;

Even numbered households **ONLY Mondays and Thursdays**,
Uneven numbered households **ONLY Tuesdays and Fridays**,
If a garden hose is used, it must be hand-held;

3. The irrigation or watering of all sport fields is prohibited. Exemption from restrictions in the following instances only: golf course greens, bowling greens and cricket pitches which may only be watered between 19:00 and 21:00;
4. The washing of vehicles with a garden hose, except by a commercial enterprise whose business it is to wash cars, is prohibited;
5. The cleaning of ANY area by means of water is prohibited;
6. The filling of swimming pools is prohibited;
7. Water restrictions become effective immediately after being advertised in the media, and in public places, for a period of two weeks;
8. Maintenance teams must be made available to address leakages on erven of indigent households. If sufficient funds are available indigent funding may be used for repairs of leakages;
9. A service must be made available - call centre number - where contraventions are reported and followed up immediately by Law Enforcement;
10. Any person who contravenes these restrictions is guilty of an offence and is, upon conviction, liable to a fine as published in the annual tariffs list, or six months imprisonment;
11. Secondary offenders will be fined double the amount referred to in (10) above;
12. Where own water from a borehole or reservoir is used, the appropriate notice shall be displayed on the premises, e.g. "OWN WATER";

AGENDA ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 25 NOVEMBER 2010**ITEM 7.1.9 ANNEXURE "B" CONTINUED**

13. Applications for exemptions are to be submitted to the Department: Civil Engineering Services for approval. Once approved, a written exemption shall be provided, and individual applications assessed;
 14. Public awareness campaigns shall be initiated by the Department: Civil Engineering Services;
 15. Additional temporary water law enforcement officers shall be appointed to enforce the water restrictions;
 16. The necessary finances shall be made available on the operational budget to finance all measures that must be implemented;
 17. Large water consumers shall be identified and approached to reduce consumption;
 18. George Disaster Management shall inform Eden Disaster Management of the situation and monthly meetings shall be held to co-ordinate and exchange information;
 19. An internal Drought Management Task Team shall be initiated, under the chairmanship of the Dept: Civil Engineering Services, with representatives from all Municipal Departments, to meet as determined at that time. Meetings will be minuted;
 20. Council shall convene to take cognisance of the situation and discuss the appropriate actions.
- 2B. Garden Route Dam volume at 45%; Malgas River Pumping Scheme at 45% of allowable pumping volume; all other schemes optimally utilized:**

Measures as in A above, and in addition, the following:

1. Emergency tariffs shall be implemented immediately, as published in the annual tariffs list, and as follows:
 - a. All residential consumers and businesses will be charged at the water tariff as published in the annual tariffs list;
 - b. All other users will be charged at the water tariff as published in the annual tariffs list.
2. Emergency tariffs shall become effective after notice thereof for a period not exceeding two weeks prior to the effective date has been published in the media and at public places;
3. Each household shall be limited to 15kl/month;

AGENDA ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 25 NOVEMBER 2010**ITEM 7.1.9 ANNEXURE "B" CONTINUED**

4. Other users, businesses and the entertainment industries shall reduce consumption by 15% of the average use over the previous 6 months. Failure to comply will result in a fine as published in the annual tariffs list;
5. Industries shall reduce consumption by 10 % of the average use over the previous 6 months. Failure to comply will result in a fine as published in the annual tariffs list;
6. Flow reducing devices shall be installed where the above limits are exceeded. Except for a registered indigent household, the offender will be charged for the cost of the installation;
7. The public awareness campaign shall be intensified. A specific official, with the relevant marketing experience, will be identified to fulfill this function;
8. Consumers shall be closely monitored and those that do not heed the restrictions identified. A specific official, with the relevant technical experience, will be identified to fulfill this function;
9. Gardens may be watered using only watering cans or buckets, any time of day;
10. Any person who contravenes these restrictions is guilty of an offence and is, upon conviction, liable to a fine as published in the annual tariffs list, or six months imprisonment;
11. Secondary offenders will be liable to an additional fine as published in the annual tariffs list;
12. Eden Disaster Management shall be approached, and requested to inform Provincial Disaster Management to take note of the situation and provide support where required;
13. A technical task meeting shall be formed with representation on a local, district and provincial level;
14. When levels are at 45%, the options available to augment the raw water supplies shall be carefully considered and the necessary planning will commence immediately to implement these as an emergency measure, as and if required. The financial implications will be assessed and cost estimations compiled;
15. Emergency procedures shall be followed, where legislation permits it e.g. with the procurement of goods and services, appointment of personnel/service providers;

AGENDA ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 25 NOVEMBER 2010**ITEM 7.1.9 ANNEXURE "B" CONTINUED**

16. A Finance task team shall be formed with representation on a local district and provincial level. All possible sources of funding will be investigated and applications submitted;
17. Additional water law enforcers must be identified, stricter policing applied and a 24 hour complaint line implemented with a whistle blowers facility when the levels reach 40%;
18. Council will be requested to convene to take full cognizance of the situation and provide political support.

2C. Garden Route Dam volume between 25% and 45%; Malgas River Pumping Scheme between 25% and 45% of allowable pumping volume all other schemes optimally utilised :

Measures as in B above, and the following:

1. Additional maintenance teams shall address leakages and complaints;
2. When levels reach 25%, the irrigation or watering of sport fields with potable water as indicated in A (3) is prohibited;
3. When levels reach 25%, there shall be no filling of public swimming pools with potable water;
4. The use of hoses by car wash business is prohibited and vehicles shall only be washed using buckets, unless water is supplied from an alternate source than municipal potable water. This is applicable to all commercial entities;
5. No hosing of structures, roofs or any other object with Municipal water;
6. Media to be utilized extensively for public awareness;
7. Other users, businesses and the entertainment industries shall reduce consumption by 25% of the average use over the previous 6 months. Failure to comply will result in a fine as published in the annual tariffs list;
8. Industries shall reduce consumption by 15% of the average use over the previous 6 months. Failure to comply will result in a fine as published in the annual tariffs list;
9. Flow reducing devices shall be installed where the above limits are exceeded. Except for a registered indigent household, the offender will be charged with the cost of the installation;
10. When levels reach 25% any person who contravenes restrictions imposed by the Municipality shall be guilty of an offence and will, upon conviction, be liable to the penalty as provided for in the Act or the

AGENDA ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 25 NOVEMBER 2010**ITEM 7.1.9 ANNEXURE "B" CONTINUED**

Water Services By-law to Limit or Restrict the use of Water, published in Provincial Gazette 6689 dated 22 January 2010 and the annual tariffs list.

11. Secondary offenders will be liable for a fine as published in the annual tariffs list;
 12. When the dam levels reach 30% the Municipal Manager shall submit a written request to Eden District Municipality to be declared a disaster area;
 13. When the Garden Route dam levels reach 30%, monthly meetings shall be held with the Eden Disaster Management Centre, MDMC, to monitor the situation and to alert the Provincial Disaster Management Centre, PDMC;
 14. Augmentation schemes will be implemented when dam level reaches 30%, if not already in progress;
 15. The Chief Financial Officer (CFO) shall request that a Provincial Financial task team be initiated to address financial needs and compile a financial recovery plan if necessary;
 16. The CFO shall request that a Provincial Technical team be initiated to assist with technical aspects and the augmentation of resources;
 17. The budget shall be reprioritized if necessary to enable emergency measures to be implemented, and to provide bridging finance if needed;
 18. The Council shall convene and take cognizance of the situation and provide political support;
- 2D. Garden Route Dam volume at 20%; Malgas River Pumping Scheme below 20% of available volume to pump; all other schemes optimally utilised:**
- Measures as in C above, and in addition, the following:**
1. Emergency tariffs will be adjusted as follows:
 - a. All residential consumers and businesses will be charged the emergency water tariff as published in the annual tariffs list
 - b. All other users will be charged the emergency water tariff as published in the annual tariffs list
 2. The maximum allowable residential use shall be reduced to 10kl/month, and the tariffs and penalties shall be adjusted accordingly;

AGENDA ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 25 NOVEMBER 2010**ITEM 7.1.9 ANNEXURE "B" CONTINUED**

3. Other users, businesses and the entertainment industries shall reduce consumption by 40% of the average use over the previous 6 months. Failure to comply will result in a fine as published in the annual tariffs list;
 4. Industries shall reduce consumption by 25% of the average use over the previous 6 months. Failure to comply will result in a fine as published in the annual tariffs list;
 5. Flow reducing devices shall be installed in all residential meters. Where the above limits are exceeded consumers will be charged for the installation of the device, except for a registered indigent household;
 6. Flow reducing devices shall be installed for all other users where the above limits are exceeded, and the cost of the installation will be charged to the offender;
 7. Via the MDMC the Provincial- and National Disaster Management Centers shall be alerted when the levels reach 15%, and requested to prepare for possible intervention if an augmentation scheme is not at implementation readiness;
 8. Eden MDMC shall be requested to act as the primary responsible authority responsible for the co-ordination and management of the local disaster, refer A:54(1) (b) of the Disaster Management Act, 2002, (Act 57 of 2002);
 9. A formal joint operations committee (JOC) shall be established at the Eden MDMC, weekly meetings with all the relevant stakeholders to coordinate emergency intervention actions needed;
 10. Eden MDMC shall alert the National Defense Force as well as the South African Police Services.
- 2E. Garden Route Dam volume at 10%; Malgas River Pumping Scheme at or below 10% of available volume to pump; all other schemes optimally utilised:**

Measures as in D above, and in addition, the following:

1. The emergency tariffs shall be adjusted as follows:
 - a. All residential consumers and businesses shall be charged the emergency water tariff as published in the annual tariffs list
 - b. All other users shall be charged the emergency water tariff as published in the annual tariffs list.
 - c. The maximum allowable residential use shall be reduced to the basic Constitutional right of 6kl/household/month, and the tariffs and penalties adjusted accordingly.

AGENDA ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING 25 NOVEMBER 2010**ITEM 7.1.9 ANNEXURE "B" CONTINUED**

2. Other users, businesses and the entertainment industries shall reduce consumption by 50% of the average use over the previous 6 months. Failure to comply will result in a fine as published in the annual tariffs list;
3. Industries shall reduce consumption by 30% of the average use over the previous 6 months. Failure to comply will result in a fine as published in the annual tariffs list;
4. The Technical Task Team shall consider all available options and implement immediately;
5. Flow reducing devices shall be installed in all meters. Where the above limits are exceeded consumers will be charged for the installation of the device;
6. Formal joint operations committee (JOC) meetings shall be held daily with all the relevant stakeholders;
7. Emergency water schemes, the placement of water tanks in specific areas as well as the installation of mobile sanitation installations shall be implemented where possible;
8. If a reliable augmentation scheme is not in place, MDMC shall coordinate with the PDMC as well as the MDMC for the release of Provincial as well as National resources to assist in providing immediate relief and to transport water into the area. Areas that will be problematic to supply will have to be evacuated.

The above measures are not exhaustive, and shall be implemented together with any other measures required to adequately address the situation. Factors such as the reliability of alternate water resources shall also be taken into account during the implementation of drought management actions.

