

# CWWTW Coastal Waters Discharge Permit Effluent Monitoring Committee

## Minutes of Meeting held at Grosvenor Library, 3 Wesley Rd, Bluff on Thursday 13 October 2022

### Present (as per attendance register)

Vikash Dalu (VD)	eThekwini Water & Sanitation
Keane Dharmalingum (KD)	eThekwini Water & Sanitation
Nontando Gumede (NG)	eThekwini Water & Sanitation
Sibongile Kunene (SK)	eThekwini Water & Sanitation
Shireen Mahabeer (SMa)	KZN EDTEA: Provincial
Shoni Makhwedzha (SMk)	eThekwini Water & Sanitation
Sanele Mchunu (SMc)	eThekwini Water & Sanitation
Jay Naidoo (JN)	eThekwini Water & Sanitation
Phumla Ngcobo (PNg)	eThekwini Water & Sanitation
Akish Singh (AS)	eThekwini Water & Sanitation
Vivian Venter (VV)	Resident
Nombulelo Zungu (NZ)	KZN EDTEA: Provincial

### Secretariat

Rose Owen (RO)	Phelamanga
Londeka Mhlophe (LM)	Phelamanga

### Apologies

Sumaya Arabi (SA)	DEA:Oceans & Coasts
Amena Chowdhury (AC)	eThekwini Water & Sanitation
Mohamed Dildar (MD)	eThekwini Water & Sanitation
Mpho Ligudu (ML)	DEA:Oceans & Coasts
Theresa Moonsamy (TM)	eThekwini Water & Sanitation
Kaverajen Pillay (KP)	eThekwini Water & Sanitation
Zoe Solomon (ZS)	Ward Councillor

MEMBERS BY INITIALS	
AM	Alfred Matsheke
AS	Akash Singh
BM	Bongani Mthembu
DD	Des D'Sa
JN	Jay Naidoo
KD	Keane Dharmalingum
KP	Kaverajen Pillay
LT	Lusapho Tshangele
MD	Mohamed Dildar
ML	Mpho Ligudu
NG	Nontando Gumede
NZ	Nombulelo Zungu
PNg	Phumla Ngcobo
PS	Prisha Sukdeo
RM	Rueben Molale
RO	Rose Owen
SK	Sibongile Kunene
SMc	Sanele Mchunu
SMk	Shoni Makwedzha
SMa	Shireen Mahabeer
SM	Sibusiso Mncibi
TP	Thorisha Pillay
TM	Theresa Moonsamy
VD	Vikash Dalu
VV	Vivienne Venter
XN	Xolano Nocanda
ZS	Zoe Solomon

Please note the following is a summary of points raised at the meeting and is not an exact record of what was said but is intended as a summary of key points raised and answered.

	<b><u>ACTION</u></b>
<p><b>1. WELCOME</b></p> <p>1. RO welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. RO acknowledged that it was good seeing everyone in person again. She asked everyone to introduce themselves.</p> <p>2. RO explained that Phelamanga would be facilitating this meeting as a once off. eThekwini were still consolidating their CWDP forum facilitator contracts.</p>	
<p><b>2. APOLOGIES</b></p> <p>Recorded above.</p>	
<p><b>3. PURPOSE AND FORMAT OF MEETING</b></p> <p>The scope and format of the meeting were summarised as follows.</p> <p><b>3.1. Scope of meeting</b></p>	

**ACTION**

<p>The purpose and function of the forum is to solely monitor the works with reference to:</p> <p>2.1.1. compliance with all conditions of the relevant licence; Coastal Waters Discharge Permit</p> <p>2.2. The Objectives of the forum shall be to:</p> <p>2.2.1. promote environmental awareness and capacity building that will improve the ongoing monitoring of the works;</p> <p>2.2.2. recommend reasonable improvements where necessary;</p> <p>2.2.3. oversee the implementation of any monitoring programme as it relates to the CWDP;</p>	
<p><b>3.2. Agreed format</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Twice per year</li> <li>• Public meeting</li> </ul>	
<p><b>4. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA</b></p> <p>The draft agenda was accepted and adopted.</p>	
<p><b>5. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING 3 NOVEMBER 2021</b></p> <p>The minutes having been circulated were accepted as a true reflection.</p>	
<p><b>6. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES NOT COVERED BELOW</b></p> <p>1. None.</p>	
<p><b>7. CWWTW PRESENTATION CWDP SEA OUTFALL MONITORING REPORT</b>  <i>[See Annexure for link to pdf version of the presentation.]</i></p>	
<p><b>7.1. Effluent quality report</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. SK summarized briefly for those who might not know that central water works has a design capacity of 135 ML/day. It is currently running at 72-90 ML/day.</li> <li>2. Raw sewage is screened and degrittied before being sent to the primary settling tank. After the solids have settled at the bottom of the tank, the final effluent is sent out to sea.</li> <li>3. The raw sludge is separated and sent out to sea using the same pipe.</li> <li>4. The outfall pipe is 3.2 KM in length, with about 400 m diffusers.</li> <li>5. SK stated that diffusers are monitored by one of central work's consultants, to ensure that the diffusers are always working and in good condition.</li> <li>6. The meters on site monitor the incoming flow. The in-flow meters are calibrated yearly by a competent person. The certificates are always kept on site and in the archives.</li> <li>7. The samples for quality monitoring of effluent discharged to the marine environment are analysed by the EWS Scientific services branch.</li> <li>8. These samples are taken weekly to be analysed and reported on, to ensure that the parameters adhere to the permit.</li> <li>9. Additionally, EWS has appointed a consultant researcher who has been continuously monitoring and studying the effects of the waste water discharged to the marine environment.</li> <li>10. There is a report compiled with this data. SK said that there was a draft report that she is awaiting finalisation so she can share to the forum.</li> <li>11. SK showed the results of the weekly samples analysed. She said that central works seldom have non-compliances.</li> <li>12. In April, Mercury was not compliant. The protocol was followed and an additional sample sent to the lab for a second analysis to determine what may have caused this parameter to be out of spec.</li> <li>13. She said that the second analysis showed Mercury to be within spec. The reason for the first reading that was out of spec could have been a pollution issue at that point in time, because they did not experience any issues with Mercury again.</li> <li>14. There was a non-compliance with solids in June. The spec is usually 800 mg/l but it was 910 mg/l. She mentioned that they took a second sample again to determine what went wrong.</li> <li>15. She reported that when solids are found to be higher than usual, they check if the channel has any residual solids or sand and clean it.</li> </ol>	

**ACTION**

16. The last report they submitted to the department is up to August 2022. They have yet to submit the September report.
17. The last project on site was the Hitachi Remix plant which, at the moment, is on hold. There are other current projects at central works

**7.2. Discussions**

1. VV asked if the sewage was currently not going through the remix plant.
2. SK confirmed that was the case because the project is still on hold. RO added that it is still going through the normal water treatment works process.
3. VV followed up by asking why was there so much pollution in the sea that the public cannot even swim.
4. SK responded that she does not know why because she knows that the pollution is definitely was not coming from central, but she will note down VVs query and send a response.
5. NZ asked for a copy of the CWDP for CWWTW, SK said she will send through to her.

SK to follow up

SK &amp; RO to follow up

**7.3. Site Incidents**

1. SK reported that there was one incident attributed to a major power failure.
2. They managed to fix it by following the incident management protocol they use on site, i.e. reporting the incident, filling out the incident form which is then signed by senior management.
3. NZ asked what measures are put in place to mitigate power failures.
4. JN Responded That As soon as there is a power failure, they change over to manual processes.
5. RO provided a bit of history to this matter by explaining that it has been an ongoing issue and that in previous discussions, the power required cannot be sourced easily from external generators or a third party provider which causes a problem.
6. The other difficulty is that they are at the mercy of Eskom. However the question is, as Central Works is a critical service, there should be exempt from power cuts.
7. She followed up by suggesting that maybe this was something Central Works should motivate through to the department for an exemption on power cuts.
8. SMA shared that being exempted from load shedding and power cuts is something that has been done.
9. She followed by asking what happens to the plant when there is no power since they do not have an alternative. Do they hold off incoming sewage?
10. RO asked when did the power failure incident occur and what impact does that have on plant activity?
11. JN responded that the alternative is using the manual process. As soon as the mechanical process fails, they switch over to manual by handling screens and degritting by hand until there is power again.
12. SMA followed up by asking how that affects the quality.
13. SK responded that the incident occurred in February, but it did not have any impacts on quality because there were no non-compliances in February.
14. SK added that for the manual process, they would usually double the hand screening. If they screen every 4 hours, they will do it every 2 hours.
15. SMA asked where the material that has been screened goes to.
16. SK responded that it is taken to another site at the moment. However, there is a contract that will be put in place to remove it to an enclosed site.
17. SMA said that she can confirm that province has not received section 30 for any of the incidents at CWWTW or their protocol. Therefore her question was where has it slipped in the reporting protocol?
18. SK said she will note down that question because that section is not done by her, it is done by their management.

SK to follow up

	<b><u>ACTION</u></b>
19. SMA explained that the decision if an incident is a section 30 lies with province. Central Works would notify province, because there could be an anomaly therefore province would have background to work with.	
20. RO added that it creates a history of information, a relationship and information sharing, which means when the department or somebody needs to look at the re-issuing of the licence they have some background information on what has been going on.	
21. Additionally, it helps when motivating for things like exemptions.	
22. SMA added that central also answers to the public. Therefore keeping the department or government informed is vital so that when a concerned stakeholder, who had raised the question of sewage in the sea earlier, the department would be able to confirm that it does not come from Central Works, because the department would have the information on Central works.	
23. RO asked when the report compiled by CSIR for the marine environment is due for presentation because it is useful information for I&AP's.	
24. SK said she would have to confirm with their environmental department.	SK to follow up
25. RO followed up by asking when are they pigging their pipeline and when was their next dive survey.	SK to follow up
26. SK said she will confirm with their environmental department.	
27. NZ asked where their monitoring point was.	
28. JN briefly explained using an Ariel shot of the site as visual aid the process followed at the treatment works.	
29. He said that they sample just before the flow comes in so that they know the quality of flow coming in. COD is typically 800 mg/l.	
30. They also take samples just after the primary settling tanks and before the final discharge as the last sampling point.	
31. RO asked if today's presentation was based of the sample point of the final discharge which JN agreed.	
<b>8. COMMUNITY ITEMS</b>	
1. None were raised	
<b>9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS</b>	
1. Nothing was raised	
<b>10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING</b>	
1. To be confirmed by eThekwini.	
<b>11. CLOSURE</b>	
There being no further business the meeting closed at 10:41 AM	

Read and confirmed this

**day of**

Facilitator

## **ANNEXURE**

The following links to the presentations referred to above will be freely available in Phelamanga's Dropbox until the next meeting of the Forum.

<b>PRESENTATION</b>	<b>LINK</b>	<b>FILE SIZE</b>
SWWTW Presentation Report	<a href="https://www.dropbox.com/s/o8oqda839h9fqur/Central%20Wastewater%20Works%20Forum%20Presentation%20%28October%202022%29.pdf?dl=0">https://www.dropbox.com/s/o8oqda839h9fqur/Central%20Wastewater%20Works%20Forum%20Presentation%20%28October%202022%29.pdf?dl=0</a>	900 KB