

NO.	DATE	AFFILIATION	REFERENCE NO.	COMMENTS	RESPONSE	RESPONDENT
COMMENTS ON PRE-APP SCOPING REPORT						
1.	01-10-2018	Guillaume Nel Environmental Consultants		<p>Appendix 5.6.23</p> <p>Geagte Inge. Baie dankie dat jy my laat weet het. Ons sal terugkom na jou as ons enige bydra het. Groete en lekker dag verder</p>	Noted.	EnviroAfrica
2.	02-10-	Volker Miros Swartruggens Conservancy		<p>Appendix 5.6.24</p> <p>My name is Volker Miros Chairman of the Swartruggens Conservancy. We have no objection for the Toeka Dam to be constructed as long as some environmental study is being done what this additional abstraction of the Rietrivier?? water will mean to all stakeholders downriver. We own and run the Groenfontein Farm and do not depend on the Rietrivier water source but have found over the years less and less water passes through the Rietrivier canyon at the South -Westerncorner of our farm from the KoueBokkeveld.</p> <p>This new dam will most probably cut off the last water to run down the Rietrivier. Your comment would be appreciated to enable me to report back to the members of the</p>	<p>Please note that two separate full Environmental Impact Assessments with the necessary specialist studies is currently being undertaken for the proposed Harmony & Toeka dams. This Scoping report aims to 'scope out' potential issues associated with the proposed development as well as set out a 'Plan of study'. I will make sure to forward you the EIR for comment once the report is available.</p> <p>As per Sarel Besters email dated 26 Sep 2018 (Appendix 5.6.22), there are about 4 upstream catchment areas that contribute to the total run-off of the Riet river catchment.</p>	EnviroAfrica & Sarel Bester Engineers

				<p>Swartruggens Conservancy. Thank you for your input. Best regards Volker</p>	<p>As indicated in the table, the Houdenbek River Catchment, one of the tributaries to the Riet river, contribute about 30% of the total of the annual Riet River run-off. This particular Water Use Application is for the taking of about 3% of the Houdenbeks River run-off, AFTER the ELU's (Existing water users) have been protected, which is 30% of the total Riet River run-off. Therefore we are applying for only 0,9% of the total of Riet river run-off (after ELU's).</p> <p>Please also refer to the Water Use License Application Report 1733WULA-W2 from Sarel Bester Engineers Appendix 7.2</p> <p>A monitoring plan and mechanical systems will be put in place, both up and down stream, to ensure that water use is monitored and that water is being released to ensure water is not cut off by the proposed dam.</p>	
3.	02-10-2018	Paul Gray		<p>Appendix 5.6.25</p> <p>Dear Inge,</p>		

		<p>Swartruggens Conservancy – Archaeology</p>		<p>I would like to support the comments submitted by Mr. Volker Miros who represents the Swartruggens Conservancy. As a member of the committee of the Conservancy, I would like to add that a formal response by the authorized Department of Water Affairs of the region and confirmed by the Provincial Water Affairs departments, be requested to ensure that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The recharge of the water course, usage and capacity of the dam does not hinder the normal (by records and assessments established over the years), flow of water downstream that would, or might affect the ecosystems that depend on the annual run off downstream, and that these figures are available. 	<p>Noted. Please refer the response above to Mnr Miros’s comments.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please note, as per Sarel Besters email dated 26 Sep 2018 (Appendix 5.6.22), there are about 4 upstream catchment areas that contribute to the total run-off of the Riet river catchment. <p>As indicated in the table, the Houdenbek River Catchment, one of the tributaries to the Riet river, contribute about 30% of the total of the annual Riet River run-off. This particular Water Use Application is for the taking of about 3% of the Houdenbeks River run-off, AFTER the ELU's (Existing water users) have been protected, which is 30% of</p>	
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				<p>2. That the projections for future rainfall conditions of drought of climatic changes have been taken in to account.</p>	<p>the total Riet River run-off. Therefore we are applying for only 0,9% of the total of Riet river run-off (after ELU's).</p> <p>Please also refer to the Water Use License Application Report 1733WULA-W2 from Sarel Bester Engineers Appendix 7.2</p> <p>A monitoring plan and mechanical systems will be put in place, both up and down stream, to ensure that water use is monitored and that water is being released to ensure water is not cut off by the proposed dam.</p> <p>2. The area is well known for its dry periods with little rainfall which can last up to 3 or 4 years and then up broken by heavy once off rainfall over a very short period. The 'new takings' will aim to abstract water from these surplus winter water situations. Calculations were conducted based on Mean Annual Rainfall for</p>	
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				<p>3. That all downstream users or property owners are included in the proposed damming of the river, that might or will be affected by such damming.</p> <p>4. That the EIA will include inter alia, archaeological as well as historical surveys.</p>	<p>the area. All water users are required by law to have a Monitoring Plan and Mechanical System in place and will have to submit proof of abstraction readings to DWS. Should the area be given disaster/ drought status, DWS will issue national or regional conditions to which all water users will have to comply with and submit proof of compliance.</p> <p>3. Noted and agreed. Down stream users and property owners are included in this application.</p> <p>4. Noted and agreed. A Heritage Screener was conducted by CTS Heritage and a NID was submitted to HWC for comment. Further studies are required by HWC and will be conducted. Findings to be discussed in the impact report.</p>	
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				<p>The above comments may very well be applicable to existing Swartruggens Conservancy members. The Knolfontein Farm of whom I am a shareholder I do not believe will be affected by the proposed TOEKA dam.</p> <p>Please confirm that all above stated comments as well as those already raised by Mr. Volker Miros, will be responded to formally in due course before construction approval.</p> <p>Sincerely yours Paul Gray Swartruggens Conservancy - Archaeology 021 712 0088</p>	<p>Please note that this comment and response report will made available to DWS who will assess all comments, responses and studies conducted to help them determine their decision on the WULA. Noted.</p>	
4.	03-10-2018	A R Mitchell Oudrif Doring Rivier		<p>Appendix 5.6.26</p> <p>Hello Inge, I can find no mention of how these dams will impact the flow patterns of the Doring River and how the will fit in with the existing environmental flow requirements for the Doring River. Can we please have a map of the entire catchment so we can see the how the dams relate to</p>	<p>Please note that I am currently busy conducting the Post-Application Scoping report. The Scoping report aims to ‘scope out’ potential impacts associated with the proposed development on the environment and set out a plan of</p>	EnviroAfrica

				<p>the rest of the catchment and extent of the impact on the whole system not just the small area that the dams cover. Thank you</p> <p>A R Mitchell</p>	<p>study and which specialists to be appointed.</p> <p>Please note that a Freshwater specialist was appointed. Findings are summarised in the report. The Freshwater report is included as Appendix 8.2. The specialist report to be updated to reflect the new preferred dam location.</p> <p>Specialist findings will be discussed in detail and included in the Environmental Impact Report. Once this report is available for comment, I will make sure to notify you.</p> <p>Please note that this comment and response report will made available to DWS who will assess all comments, responses and studies conducted to help them determine their decision on the WULA.</p>	
5.	09-10-2019	Justus & Marguerite Bruwer	Harmony Dam	<p>Appendix 5.6.27</p> <p>Application Proposed Dam: Harmony Dam - on remainder of the farm Houdenbek NO. 415 Morester Landgoed, Ceres.</p>	<p>Please take note that this application will not influence river base flow. This application is for the taking of surplus winter water</p>	<p>EnviroAfrica Sarel Bester Engineers</p>

				<p>Objection: De Naauwte Erf 136 District of Ceres Karoo We, Justus W R Bruwer & Marguerite A Bruwer of the farm De Naauwte, hereby wish to register our objection to the above mentioned application.</p> <p>Reasons for our objection:</p> <p>The farm De Naauwte is severely impacted by the flow of water in the Rietrivier. The section of river that runs through our farm has been dry for the past 3 years. The river is our only source of water.</p> <p>The river water has been used mainly for domestic purposes up to this point in time.</p> <p>- The Houdenbek river feeds into the Rietrivier. - there is extensive agriculture in this catchment area thus the groundwater use exceeds recharge and levels have dropped alarmingly. Groundwater contributes significantly to river base flow.</p> <p>3) Please take note that in April of 2012 the Final Project Report done by the Department of Water Affairs Chief Directorate: Resource Directed</p>	<p>which comes down in bursts over maybe 1-3 days.</p> <p>Please refer to the Water Use License Application Report 1733WULA-W2 from Sarel Bester Engineers Appendix 7.2</p> <p>Please also refer to Sarel Besters Engineers email dated 26 Sep 2018 (Appendix 5.6.22), there are about 4 upstream catchment areas that contribute to the total run-off of the Riet river catchment.</p> <p>As indicated in the table, the Houdenbek River Catchment, one of the tributaries to the Riet river, contribute about 30% of the total of the annual Riet River run-off. This particular Water Use Application is for the taking of about 3% of the Houdenbeks River run-off, AFTER the ELU's (Existing water users) have been protected, which is 30% of the total Riet River run-off. Therefore we are applying for only 0,9% of the total of Riet river run-off (after ELU's).</p> <p>A monitoring plan and mechanical systems will be put in place, both</p>	
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				<p>Measure” and we quote a few points mentioned in the Report.</p> <p>“ Koue Bokkeveldd IUA, which has 2% of the population accounts for 18% of the water usage in the WMA”</p> <p>“ No large dams or large water wier development on the mainstream of the Doring, Groot, Riet, Verlorenvlei, Langvlei, Jakkels and Papkuils rivers”</p> <p>No new licenses for water abstraction in summer (low flow) period of the year in the mainstream of the Olifants upstream of the Clanwilliam Dam, Doring, Groot, Riet, Verlorenvlei, Langvlei, Jakkels and Papkuils rivers.”</p> <p>“ The Houdenbeks is fully developed”</p> <p>4) Aproximately 95% of water use in the WMA is used in the agricultural sector. The above mentioned study/report found that future growth in demand for water is therefore likely to be linked to increased demand from the agriculture sector and not due to increased demand linked to population growth.</p>	<p>up and down stream, to ensure that water use is monitored and that water is being released to ensure water is not cut off by the proposed dam.</p> <p>Please note that this comment and response report will made available to DWS who will assess all comments, responses and studies conducted to help them determine their decision on the WULA.</p>	
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				<p>5) Groundwater defects after taking surface water EWR low flow into account. The Kouebokke veld ground water exceeds recharge and water levels are dropping. Ground water is shallow. Ground water supply is at risk.</p> <p>We are not adverse to the fruit farmers at all but have the same right to water. Yet another large dam will have further severe implications for our human consumption and for the wildlife on our farm not to mention the fish species endemic to the Rietrivier.</p> <p>Please be so kind as to acknowledge receipt of this email and letter of objection.</p> <p>Contact: bruwerm@mweb.co.za</p> <p>Kind Regards,</p> <p>Justus & Marguerite Bruwer (Computer generated signature)</p> <p>De Naauwte,</p>		
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<p>6.</p>	<p>25-10-2018</p>	<p>Alexander Frew Zeekoegat Property</p>		<p>Appendix 5.6.28</p> <p>Dear Inge Erasmus</p> <p>I confirm that I am an objector to the proposed construction of the Harmony & Toeka dams.</p> <p>I am a co-owner of the Zeekoegat property, which borders the Riet River and is downstream of these proposed dams. For four winters past there has been no water flowing in the river. Prior to this, the river would flow every winter, helping to clear out alien vegetation from the banks of the river. We are concerned that in the current situation of record drought years that any development of dams will only make this situation worse.</p> <p>Sincerely Alexander Frew</p>	<p>This application is for the taking of surplus winter water which comes down in bursts over maybe 1-3 days.</p> <p>Please refer to the Water Use License Application Report 1733WULA-W2 from Sarel Bester Engineers Appendix 7.2</p> <p>Please also refer to Sarel Besters Engineers email dated 26 Sep 2018 (Appendix 5.6.22), there are about 4 upstream catchment areas that contribute to the total run-off of the Riet river catchment.</p> <p>As indicated in the table, the Houdenbek River Catchment, one of the tributaries to the Riet river, contribute about 30% of the total of the annual Riet River run-off. This particular Water Use Application is for the taking of about 3% of the Houdenbeks River run-off, AFTER the ELU's (Existing water users) have been protected, which is 30% of the total Riet River run-off. Therefore we are applying for only 0,9% of the total of Riet river run-off (after ELU's).</p>	
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					<p>A monitoring plan and mechanical systems will be put in place, both up and down stream, to ensure that water use is monitored and that water is being released to ensure water is not cut off by the proposed dam.</p> <p>Please note that this comment and response report will be made available to DWS who will assess all comments, responses and studies conducted to help them determine their decision on the WULA.</p>	
7.	26-10-2018	F P Greef Shiny Mountain		<p>Appendix 5.6.29</p> <p>I am the owner of the farm Shiny Mountain (Blinkberg Ceres Road). What mechanism will ensure that only surplus water will be stored.</p>	<p>For the sole use of surplus water:</p> <p>This is a difficult practical one, but theoretically we have a relatively simple suggestion.</p> <p>First: Between Harmony (applicant) and Morester (current water user), an agreement has been drawn up whereby Morester will make water available to the applicant. The reason for this is that Morester's two existing in-bed dams will act as a buffer dam for Harmony to pump from it to fill the applicant's proposed Toeka dam. I refer to Appendix 7.2 for the Water Use License Report</p>	Sarel Bester Ingenieurs BK

					<p>1733WULA-W2, page 4 at the bottom.</p> <p>In other words, the two partners have an agreement that the applicant will protect the existing Morester water use, and that Morester meets the applicant to pump water before their own complete ELU (Existing Lawful Uses) is already protected.</p> <p>Furthermore; To protect the Rietrivier stream (IFR & ELU), we propose that the In Flow Requirements (IFR) be released at Houdenbek-Onder dam at the same time as the applicant will pump his water. Secondly, the downstream ELUs will be released on the same basis as the applicant's withdrawals, ie the downstream ELUs as well as the applicant's water use will be distributed pro-rata and in the same priority.</p> <p>To monitor this system, we suggest that measurement mechanism be installed both up- and down-stream so that the releases can be monitored.</p>	
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					<p>However, the Department (DWS) will have to assist us with the recommendations for IFR releases as well as the downstream ELUs. Thus, surplus conditions can be monitored and accordingly released pro-rata.</p> <p>It is important that water users are advised that Houdenberg contributes only 30% to the total run-off of the quaternary run-off area. Refer previous email and comments on the protection of existing water uses and this license only accounts for 0.9% of the total water (Appendix 5.6.22).</p>	
8.	05-11-2018	Rassie Nieuwoudt DWS Berg-Olifants		<p>Appendix 5.6.30</p> <p>Dear Inge,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I am following up on the above matter. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Please register me as an I&AP in this matter. b. Have you received any comments from DWS? <p>Regards,</p>	<p>I am in the process of completing the Post-App Scoping for the two proposed dam. I have not received any comments from DWS yet. We had a pre-app meeting in Feb 2018 which Mr Leon Nomjila attended. As I understand he is also handling the WULA.</p> <p>However, I will make sure to register you as an I&AP and send you future reports.</p> <p>Kind regards Inge</p>	EnviroAfrica

<p>9.</p>	<p>05-11-2018</p>	<p>DEADP D Matthews</p>	<p>16/3/3/6/7/1/B5/ 2/1367/17</p>	<p>Appendix 5.6.31</p> <p>Comment on Daft Scoping Report</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The draft SR dated October 2018 as received by the Department on 1 October 2018, refers. 2. The proposal entails construction of an instream dam in an unnamed tributary of the Houdenbek River on the Remainder of Farm Houdenbek No. 415. The dam specifications are: Dam wall length: 280m Dam wall height : 12,8m Dam capacity: 250 000m³ Dam surface area: 5,4 ha 3. The Department has the following comments that must be addressed and included in the in-process Sr: 3.1 Since Activity 14 of Listing Notice 3 is triggered, Activity 13 of LN 1 must be excluded from the list of applicable activities because if the exclusionary provision within the activity which reads, "(cc) activities listed in activity 14 in LN 2 of 2014 or activity 14 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Noted. 2. Noted and correct. 3. Noted 3.1 Noted and corrected 	<p>EnviroAfrica</p>
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				<p>LN 3 of 2014, in which case that activity applies”</p> <p>3.2 It is unclear whether a pipeline will be constructed as part of the proposal. A description and layout plan, detailing and illustrating the proposed development and all associated infrastructure must be provided. Furthermore, the Listed Activities for the transport of water must be included , if applicable.</p> <p>3.3 Limited information is included for Alternative B, which involves the expansion of an unused dam. As such, more information must be provided for the aforementioned alternative for a comparative assessment of the</p>	<p>3.2 Harmony dam will be filled primarily with runoff from its own catchment area, an unnamed tributary to the Houdenbek River. Irrigation pipelines thresholds will not trigger listed activities in terms of NEMA and will be located on ploughed land and road reserves and the impact will be temporary. Please refer to Locality Maps Appendix 1, Figure 7 for the map indicating proposed layout for irrigation pipelines.</p> <p>3.3 Please refer to Section 4 of the Scoping report for updated information regarding the Alternatives investigated. Please note that Alternative B (now</p>	
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				<p>alternatives that were considered. Especially since the motivation for the preferred alternative includes having a smaller footprint and lower evaporation rate, which is contradictory to the information of the Prelim Design Report dated 26/02/2018 compiled by Sarel Bester Ingenieurs BK.</p> <p>3.4 In addition, it is unclear whether this Alt B will be included for further assessment in the EIA phase.</p> <p>3.5 The Plan of Study does not conform to the content requirements outlined in Appendix 2 of the EIA Regs 2014 (as amended).</p> <p>3.6 It is recommended that a MMP that addresses all the</p>	<p>Alternative C) is not considered a viable alternative from an engineering point of view and will therefore not be investigated any further.</p> <p>3.4 Please note that Alternative B (now Alternative C) is not considered a viable alternative from an engineering point of view and will therefore not be investigated any further. Other alternatives is discussed in the report.</p> <p>3.5 Noted and updated.</p> <p>3.6 Noted. The MMP to be included with the</p>	
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				<p>maintenance activities for infrastructure to be constructed as part of the development must be included in the EIA report. The PoS for the EIA phase must be updated to include this aspect.</p> <p>4. Regulatory requirements:</p> <p>4.1 Proof of the notification and the copies of the notification letters sent to registered I&APs for the comment on the pre-App SC must be included</p> <p>4.2 All representations and comments received during the pre-application commenting period must be included in the in-process draft SR and any responses by the EAP to those representations and comments must be tabulated in a C&RR.</p> <p>4.3 The minutes of any meetings held by the EAP & I&APs and other role players which record the views of the participants.</p> <p>4.4 Please be advised that an original signed and dated application declaration is</p>	<p>EIA report for comment.</p> <p>4. Noted</p> <p>4.1 Noted and included. Appendix 5.7</p> <p>4.2 Noted and included. See the C&RR (this report) Appendix 5.6 with original comments Appendix 5.6.1 – 5.6.33</p> <p>4.3 Please refer to the register Appendix 6.2</p> <p>4.4 Noted.</p>	
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				<p>required to be submitted with the Final Scoping to this Department for decision-making. It is important to note that by signing this declaration, the applicant is confirming that they are aware and have taken cognisance of the contents of the report submitted for decision-making.</p> <p>Furthermore, through signing this declaration, the applicant is making a commitment that they are willing and able to implement the necessary mitigation management and monitoring measurements recommended within the report with respect to this application.</p> <p>4.5 In addition to the above, please ensure that original signed and dated EAP and specialist declarations are also submitted with the F SR for decision making.</p> <p>5. You are reminded that the SR must contain all information outlined in Appendix 2 of the EIA regs 2014.</p>	<p>4.5 Noted</p> <p>5. Noted.</p> <p>6. Noted and quoted.</p>	
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				<p>6. Kindly quote the above-mentioned reference number in any future correspondence in respect of the application.</p> <p>7. Please note that the activity may not commence prior to an EA being granted by the Department.</p> <p>8. The Department reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on the information received.</p>	<p>7. Noted and agreed</p> <p>8. Noted.</p>	
10.	06—11-2018	Cape Nature Philippa Huntly	SSD14/2/6/1/9/6/415- Re_SR_Dam_Harmony_Ceres	<p>Appendix 5.6.32</p> <p>Cape Nature comment on Pre-App Scoping, Harmony Dam</p> <p>Letter dated 31 October 2018, received 6 Nov 2018.</p> <p>CapeNature would like to thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above application and wish to make the following comments. Please note that our comments pertain only to the biodiversity related impacts and not to the overall desirability of the application.</p>		

				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It is confirmed that our comments of 27 July 2017 based on the Background Information Document sent out at the time have been included in this, the Pre-Application Scoping Report for the construction of a new dam (Harmony dam) on the remainder of Farm Houdenbek 415 Ceres. 2. The main issue raised in the comments of 27 July was in relation to the proposed preferred alternative siting of Harmony Dam. It is not supported by CapeNature as it located within a proclaimed Mountain Catchment Area (Kouebokkeveld MCA). No activities which result in loss of habitat or alteration of water flow or quality should be permitted in MCAs. MCAs are of very high conservation value and should be treated and managed as formal protected areas. Runoff from this MCA assists in maintaining the water quality of the Houdenbeks River and groundwater recharge. It should be noted that a 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Noted. 2. Noted, Findings of the Botanical and Freshwater specialist are summarised in the report. Specialist findings were included as Appendix 8. Please also refer to the Freshwater Specialist email response, Appendix 5.6.32.1 regarding habitat loss, alternation of water flow or quality as well as the impact on water quality of the Houdebeks River and groundwater recharge. 	
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				<p>significant amount of water is already being captured by the dams in the Houdenbeks River and the many smaller dams in the Quaternary Catchment Area. It is also noted that a significant number of I&APs (including a Private Nature Reserve, private users and commercial users) have also raised concerns about impacts on downstream water supply upon which they are dependant.</p> <p>3. As noted in our comments of 27 July 2017, CapeNature does not support new instream dams or enlargement of existing instream dams unless it can be shown that the ecological condition of the river/stream in which the dam is located can be improved and no significant terrestrial or aquatic habitat will be lost. It is noted that a Freshwater Specialist and a Botanical Specialist have been appointed to conduct assessments and that the results of these studies will</p>	<p>3. Noted, Findings of the Botanical and Freshwater specialist are summarised in the report. Specialist findings were included as Appendix 8. Please also refer to the Freshwater Specialist email response, Appendix 5.6.32.1 regarding habitat loss, alternation of water flow or quality as well as the impact on water quality of the Houdebeks River and groundwater recharge.</p>	
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				<p>be used to determine the impact on terrestrial and aquatic habitat and on overall ecological condition.</p> <p>4. There are two vegetation types mapped for the site of the proposed Harmony Dam. These are Winterhoek Sandstone Fynbos and Kouebokkeveld Alluvium Fynbos. Kouebokkeveld Alluvium Fynbos is categorised as Critically Endangered according to criterion A1: Irreversible loss of natural habitat. No further loss of Kouebokkeveld Alluvium Fynbos will be supported.</p> <p>5. It is noted that a concurrent process is being followed for the Toeka Dam application on the same property and a separate but similar comment is submitted for that however the DEA&DP communication of 10th November 2017 recommended that one process be followed for both applications. Please confirm the reasoning behind the two separate processes.</p>	<p>4. The incorrect reference to the vegetation site was corrected.</p> <p>5. It was decided to do the two dams as two separate applications so the objection against one dam does not impact the other application.</p>	
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				<p>CapeNature reserves the right to revise initial comments and request further information based on any additional information that may be received.</p>		
11.	07-06-2019	HWC	180306134S0308E	<p>Appendix 5.6.33 for original comments received from HWC (dated 11/02/2019 and 13/09/2019 & Appendix 5.6.33.1 for email correspondence</p> <p>HWC Comments on NID for proposed Harmony & Toeka 13-09-2019</p> <p>HWC is in receipt of your application of your application for the above matter received on 4 Sept 2018. This matter was discussed at the Heritage Officers meeting held 10 Sept 2018.</p> <p>You are hereby notified since there is reason to believe that the proposed development will impact on heritage resources, HWC requires that a HIA that satisfies the provisions of section 38(3) of the NHRA be submitted. This HIA must have specific reference to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Impacts on archaeological heritage resources - 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An Archaeological Impact Assessment was conducted (Appendix 8.3.2) and findings were 	

				<p>- Impact on paleontological heritage resources</p> <p>The required HIA must have an intergrated set of recommendations. The comments of relevant registered conservation bodies and the relevant municipality must be requested and included in the HIA where provided. Proof of these requirements must be supplied</p> <p>HWC Interim Comment on proposed Harmony & Toeka dams (as received on 06-07-2019).</p> <p>HWC is in receipt of your application for the above matter received on December 2018. This matter was discussed at the Impact Assessment Committee meeting held on 16 January 2019.</p> <p><u>Interim comment:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A PIA, as required in the NID response, must be conducted by a suitably qualified 	<p>discussed in the Heritage Impact Assessment (Appendix 8.3.1). Findings are summarised in the Scoping report.</p> <p>- The Heritage Specialist, CTS Heritage suggested that a PIA would not be necessary. Please refer to the email correspondence Appendix 5.6.33.1. However, HWC did not agree with this statement and is requesting that a PIA be conducted. A PIA still needs to be conducted, the HIA will be updated and findings will be discussed in the EIR.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Noted, a PIA to be conducted, HIA to be 	
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				<p>palaeontologist and submitted to HWC.</p> <p>2. The identified and significant archaeological resource, the rock are panel and the rockshelter site, is to be recorded by a suitably qualified expert.</p>	<p>updated and findings to be discussed in the EIR.</p> <p>To be conducted.</p>	
COMMENTS ON INITIAL PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PHASE						
1.	17-07-2017	Zeekoegat Farms CC (Mrs AM Forbes)		<p>Appendix 5.6.1</p> <p>AM Forbes request inclusion as an I&AP.</p> <p>The Riet River is fed from the Winkelhooks river in turn fed from the Houdembek river and catchment area.</p> <p>The Riet River in turn is a feeder river to the Dooring River.</p> <p>The proposed damming of this river and catchment area would result in the removal of our essential water source.</p>	<p>Noted and added.</p> <p>Please refer to the email response from Sarel Bester Engineers in Appendix 5.6.22</p>	Sarel Bester Engineers
2.	19-07-2017	Neil Lyners and Associates (Mr Mario Filippi)		<p>Appendix F5.6.2</p> <p>Ons is besorg oor die impak van die voorgestelde dam op die stroomafvloei van die rivier asook die impak op die bewarings gebied.</p> <p>Is dit moontlik dat jy asb. vir ons die voorgestelde dam posisies en opsies kan aanstuur, die verslae van die</p>	<p>Noted and added. The Scoping report and all future reports will be forwarded to you.</p>	

				verskeie spesialiste (ek neem aan "river aquatic", plantkundige, ens.) asook die bepaling van die basis stroom vir die rivier vir die stroomaf vereistes? Enige ander verslae wat relevant is, sal ook vir ons beter insae gee asb.?		
3.	10-07-2017	Zeekoegat Farm CC (Mrs Gail Hunter)		<p>Appendix F5.6.3</p> <p>Gail Hunter request inclusion as an I&AP.</p> <p>The Riet River is fed from the Winkelhooks river in turn fed from the Houdenbek river and catchment area.</p> <p>The Riet River in turn is a feeder river to the Dooring River.</p> <p>The proposed damming of this river and catchment area would result in the removal of our essential water source.</p>	Noted and added.	
4.	21-07-2017	Cape Nature (Alana Duffel-canham)	SSD14/2/6/1/9/6/415_Water_Dams_Houdenbek	<p>Appendix F5.6.4</p> <p>CapeNature would like to thank you for the opportunity to comment on this application.</p> <p>Please note that CapeNature does not support new instream dams or enlargement of existing instream dams unless it can be shown that the ecological condition of the river/stream in which the dam is</p>	<p>A freshwater and botanical specialist have been appointed to investigate this concern. Findings to the included in the impact report.</p>	EnviroAfrica

				<p>located can be improved and no significant terrestrial or aquatic habitat will be lost.</p> <p>Harmony Dam is not supported by CapeNature as it located within a proclaimed Mountain Catchment Area (Kouebokkeveld MCA). No activities which result in loss of habitat or alteration of water flow or quality should be permitted in MCAs. MCAs are of very high conservation value and should be treated and managed as formal protected areas. Runoff from this MCA assists in maintaining the water quality of the Houdenbeks River and groundwater recharge. It should be noted that a significant amount of water is already being captured by the dams in the Houdenbeks River and the many smaller dams in the Quaternary Catchment Area.</p> <p>Toeka Dam is not within the MCA, however, it is proposed within an area determined as Ecological Support Area (ESA). Although it is acknowledged by the 2017 Biodiversity Spatial Plan that some of the ESA is degraded, the ESAs on this site have been determined as such</p>	<p>The Mountain Catchment Management Plan was requested from Cape Nature for inclusion in the EMPr to ensure the correct management of the MCA.</p> <p>The Biodiversity specialist still to provide comment on this concern.</p> <p>A freshwater and biodiversity specialist was appointed to conduct an impact assessment of the impact of the proposed dam Findings to be included in the impact report.</p>	
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				<p>because they are important for groundwater recharge, watercourse protection and the presence of a channelled valley bottom wetland. Ideally this area should be rehabilitated to allow for improved water flow and ecological functioning.</p> <p>Should the applicant wish to pursue the applications for these dams, a freshwater specialist must be appointed to consider direct and cumulative impacts and to determine Ecological Flow Reserve and river rehabilitation requirements. However, our objection to Harmony Dam is likely to remain in place as development of a dam in the proposed location is contrary to the conservation objectives of a MCA.</p>		
5.	21-07-2017	Zeekoegat Farms CC (Mr Alexander David Frew)		<p>Appendix F5.6.5</p> <p>I, Alexander David Frew, request to be registered as an Interested and Affected Party in respect of the above project.</p> <p>I am a member of Zeekoegat Farms CC through which the Riet River runs. The Riet River, WHICH IS OUR ONLY WATER SOURCE, is fed from the</p>	Noted and added	<p>Please refer to the email response from Sarel Bester Engineers in Appendix 5.1.7</p>

				<p>Winkelhaaks River which in turn is fed from the Houdenbeks River and catchment area.</p> <p>The proposed damming of the Houdenbeks River and catchment area would result in the removal of our essential water source.</p>		
6.	21-07-2017	Zeekoegat Farms CC (Mrs Marie Sylva Stobie)		<p>Appendix F5.6.6</p> <p>I, Marie Sylva Stobie, request to be registered as an Interested and Affected Party in respect of the above project.</p> <p>I am a member of Zeekoegat Farms CC through which the Riet River runs. The Riet River, WHICH IS OUR ONLY WATER SOURCE, is fed from the Winkelhaaks River which in turn is fed from the Houdenbeks River and catchment area.</p> <p>The proposed damming of the Houdenbeks River and catchment area would result in the removal of our essential water source.</p>	<p>Noted and added</p> <p>Please refer to the email response from Sarel Bester Engineers in Appendix 5.6.22</p>	
7.	26-07-2017	EET Group (Ida Usgaard and Federick Anderson)		<p>Appendix F5.6.7</p> <p>On behalf of all of Rietvlei farm construction plans are of great concern to nature and people dependant on water resources. Don't construct a dam.</p>	<p>Please refer to the email response from Sarel Bester Engineers in Appendix 5.6.22</p>	
8.	26-07-2017	Klein Cederberg		<p>Appendix F5.6.8</p>	<p>Noted and added</p>	

		Private Nature Reserve (Nik Wullschleger)		Please register Klein Cedarberg Private Nature Reserve (Nik Wullschleger) as an interested and affected party in this matter.		
9.	26-07-2017	Paul Gray (Farm Knolfontein and Swartruggens Conservancy)		<p>Appendix F5.6.9</p> <p>Good day, Please can you register me as an I & A P for the above proposed dam on the Houdenbeck river. I am a shareholder on the Farm Knolfontein, as well as a committee member of the Swartruggens Conservancy. Please submit data as written to the below listed address as well as per e-mail Thanking you</p>	Noted and added	Please refer to the email response from Sarel Bester Engineers in Appendix 5.6.22
10.	26-07-2017	Swartruggens conservancy (Volker Miros)		<p>Appendix F5.6.10</p> <p>We would like to submit as interested parties on behalf of the Swartruggens Conservancy.</p>	Noted and added	
11.	31-07-2017	Molenrivier Landgoed (Pty) Ltd (Tian Erasmus)		<p>Appendix F5.6.11</p> <p>We hereby want to register as an Interested and Affected Party to the Proposed Construction of a new dam on Remainder of Farm Houdenbek no 415, Ceres by Harmony Trust.</p>	Noted and added	Please refer to the email response from Sarel Bester Engineers in Appendix 5.6.22

				The company owns properties that gets water from the Houdenbek's River and any further development in and around the river may impact on the sustainability of the company and its operations		
12.	31-07-2017	Sandberg Eiendomme (Pty) Ltd (Tian Erasmus)		<p>Appendix F5.6.12</p> <p>We hereby want to register as an Interested and Affected Party to the Proposed Construction of a new dam on Remainder of Farm Houdenbek no 415, Ceres by Harmony Trust.</p> <p>The company owns properties that gets water from the Houdenbek's River and any further development in and around the river may impact on the sustainability of the company and its operations</p>	Noted and added	
13.	31-07-2017	TSR Boerdery (Pty) Ltd (Tian Erasmus)		<p>Appendix F5.6.13</p> <p>We hereby want to register as an Interested and Affected Party to the Proposed Construction of a new dam on Remainder of Farm Houdenbek no 415, Ceres by Harmony Trust.</p>	Noted and added	

				The company owns properties that gets water from the Houdenbek's River and any further development in and around the river may impact on the sustainability of the company and its operations		
14	02-08-2917	Zeekoegat Farm CC Bruce Johnson		<p>Appendix F5.6.14</p> <p>Bruce Johnson request to be registered as an Interested and Affected Party in respect of the above project.</p> <p>I am a member of Zeekoegat Farms CC through which the Riet River runs. The Riet River, WHICH IS OUR ONLY WATER SOURCE, is fed from the Winkelhaaks River which in turn is fed from the Houdenbeks River and catchment area.</p> <p>The proposed damming of the Houdenbeks River and catchment area would result in the removal of our essential water source.</p>	Noted and added	Please refer to the email response from Sarel Bester Engineers in Appendix 5.6.22
15	02-08-2017	Zeekoegat Farm CC (Dr David A.H Buckley)		<p>Appendix F5.6.15</p> <p>I wish to register as an interested and affected party in regard to the proposed construction of a dam on the property Houdenbek 415 Ceres. I am a member of Zeekoegat Farm CC, a co-owner of the</p>	Noted and added	Please refer to the email response from Sarel Bester Engineers in Appendix 5.6.22

				<p>property Zeekoegat. Our property is bordered to the east by the Riet River, into which the Houdenbek and Winkelhaak Rivers flow. Any disruption to the flow of the Houdenbek River and its catchment will have a direct impact on the Riet River, negatively impacting on this important water resource for us and others downstream of the Houdenbek River. We rely on the permanent water holes of the Riet River which are threatened with silting and encroachment of reeds should the flow of the river be reduced. We have already seen a cessation of the annual winter flows of the Riet River, which in past years helped to clear the build up of sand, silt and reeds in the river bed. This proposed dam will only exacerbate this situation and further compromise the ecology of this river.</p>		
16	02-08-2017	Rietkloof/ Rietvlei dam (Chris Sparks)		<p>Appendix F5.6.16</p> <p>Please register me as an interested and effected person with regards the "Harmony Trust - Proposed dam on the farm Houdenbek Farm 415/RE, Koue Bokkeveld"</p>	Noted and added	

				I am one of the property owners of Rietkloof / Rietvlei dam		
17	02-08-2017	Justus & Marguerite Bruwer		<p>Appendix F5.6.17</p> <p>Application Proposed Dam: Harmony Dam - on remainder of the farm Houdenbek NO. 415 Morester Landgoed, Ceres. Objection: De Naauwte Erf 136 District of Ceres Karoo We, Justus W R Bruwer & Marguerite A Bruwer of the farm De Naauwte, hereby wish to register our objection to the above mentioned application.</p> <p>Reasons for our objection:</p> <p>The farm De Naauwte is severely impacted by the flow of water in the Rietrivier. The section of river that runs through our farm has been dry for the past 3 years. The river is our only source of water. The river water has been used mainly for domestic purposes up to this point in time.</p> <p>- The Houdenbek river feeds into the Rietrivier. - there is extensive agriculture in this catchment area thus the groundwater use exceeds</p>	Noted and added	Please refer to the email response from Sarel Bester Engineers in Appendix 5.6.12

				<p>recharge and levels have dropped alarmingly. Groundwater contributes significantly to river base flow.</p> <p>3) Please take note that in April of 2012 the Final Project Report done by the Department of Water Affairs Chief Directorate: Resource Directed Measure” and we quote a few points mentioned in the Report.</p> <p>“ Koue Bokkeveldd IUA, which has 2% of the population accounts for 18% of the water usage in the WMA”</p> <p>“ No large dams or large water wier development on the mainstream of the Doring, Groot, Riet, Verlorenvlei, Langvlei, Jakkels and Papkuils rivers”</p> <p>No new licenses for water abstraction in summer (low flow) period of the year in the mainstream of the Olifants upstream of the Clanwilliam Dam, Doring, Groot, Riet, Verlorenvlei, Langvlei, Jakkels and Papkuils rivers.”</p> <p>“ The Houdenbeks is fully developed”</p>		
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				<p>4) Aproximately 95% of water use in the WMA is used in the agricultural sector. The above mentioned study/report found that future growth in demand for water is therefore likely to be linked to increased demand from the agriculture sector and not due to increased demand linked to population growth.</p> <p>5) Groundwater defects after taking surface water EWR low flow into account. The Kouebokke veld ground water exceeds recharge and water levels are dropping. Ground water is shallow. Ground water supply is at risk.</p> <p>We are not adverse to the fruit farmers at all but have the same right to water. Yet another large dam will have further severe implications for our human consumption and for the wildlife on our farm not to mention the fish species endemic to the Rietrivier.</p> <p>Please be so kind as to acknowledge receipt of this email and letter of objection.</p>		
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				<p>Contact: bruwerm@mweb.co.za</p> <p>Kind Regards,</p> <p>Justus & Marguerite Bruwer (Computer generated signature)</p> <p>De Naauwte,</p>		
18	03-08-2017	Fanie van der Merwe		<p>Appendix F5.6.18</p> <p>Would like to register as an IAP</p>	Noted and added	
19	04-08-2017	Guillaume Nel		<p>Appendix F5.6.19</p> <p>GNEC is aangestel deur die volgende eiendomme om te registreer as I&AP vir die voorgestelde damme op die plaas Houdenbek.</p> <p>Ons verteenwoordig die volgende eiendomme:</p> <p>1 – Leeuwenhoek – T36588/2005</p> <p>2 – Zuurvlaakte – T55074/2007</p> <p>3 – Winkelhaak – T4841/2009</p> <p>4 – Nougá – T17855/2014</p> <p>5 – Championberg – T47848/2016</p> <p>Sal julle ons asb van alle inligting voorsien deur die proses om ons in die posisie te plaas om die nodige impakte op</p>	<p>Noted and added</p> <p>The Scoping report and all future reports will be forwarded to you.</p>	

				<p>die genoemde eiendomme te bepaal.</p> <p>Ek kry nie die projek op jul webtuiste nie, maar neem aan dis omdat jul nog nie met die formele EIA begin het nie.</p> <p>Sal julle asb bevestig dat ons geregistreerd is en ook wanneer julle met die proses sal begin asb.</p>		
20	22-04-2017	Antoy & Rory Mitchell		<p>Appendix F5.6.20</p> <p>I have just learnt that there is a proposal to build an in-stream dam on the above property on a tributary of the Doring River . Our property is downstream on the Doring River and I would like to know why we were not contacted directly about this project as required by law.</p>	The Scoping report and all future reports will be forwarded to you.	EnviroAfrica
21	10-11-2017	DEADP (D Mathews)	16/3/3/6/7/1/B5/2/1367/17	<p>Appendix F5.6.21/App 6.1.1</p> <p>Acknowledgment and Acceptance of the NOI</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The correspondence dated 26 October 2017, as received by the Department on 2 Nov 2017 refer 2. Review of information submitted to the department: 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Noted 2. Please see review measurements as stated in the Scoping report and Prelim Design Report from the engineers Appendix 7. 	

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dam wall length: 270m • Dam wall height: 13m • Dam capacity: 250 000m³ • Dam surface area: 5ha <p>3. Please note the following advice pertaining to the NOI:</p> <p>3.1 It is noted that a NOI for the construction of Harmony Dam on the same property description a the Toeka Dam is being proposed. You are required to provide an explanation as to why two separate NOI's have been submitted, since the applications are the same for both dams. Furthermore, the Department recommends that one process be followed for the two dam options being proposed instead of two separate processes.</p> <p>3.2 Section 5.2 of the NOI form indicates the requirement for the WULA ito the National Water Act. In terms of the Agreement for the One Environmental System (sect 50A of the NEMA and sections 41(50 and 164A of the NWA) the processes for a WULA and for an EIA must be aligned and intergrated</p>	<p>3.</p> <p>3.1 This was discussed in the Pre-Application meeting held with DWS and DEADP, it was decided to do the two dams as two separate applications so the objection against one dam does not impact the other application.</p> <p>3.2 Noted. Sarel Bester Engineers is conducting the WULA. Proof to be provided once the WULA is logged.</p>	
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				<p>with respect to the fixed synchronised timeframes, as prescribed in the EIA Regs, 2014 (as amended) as well as the 2017 WUAL Regs</p> <p><u>Process:</u></p> <p>4. A Scoping/ EIR must be followed in order to apply for EA. Only those activities applies for shall be considered for authorisation. The onus is on the applicant to ensure that all the applicable listed activities are applies for and assessed as part of the Scoping/ EIR process</p> <p>5. You are advised that when undertaking the Scoping/ EIR process, you must take into account the applicable guidelines including the guidelines developed by the Department. The Department’s guidelines can be downloaded from the Departments website... In particular guidelines stated in the acknowledgement letter from DEADP (10-11-2017) should be followed.</p> <p>6. Please ensure the Scoping, EIR and EMPr contains all the</p>	<p>4. Noted and agreed. Please refer to the Pre-App Scoping and plan of study for comment.</p> <p>5. Noted and agreed. Please refer to the Pre-App Scoping and plan of study for comment.</p> <p>6. Noted and Agreed.</p>	
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				<p>information outlined in App 2,3,5 of the GN No. 326.</p> <p><u>Public Participation:</u></p> <p>7. A PPP that meets the requirements of Reg 41 of the EIA Regs, 2014 (as amended) must be undertaken. You are advised that pp may undertaken prior to the submission of the application, although this is not mandatory. It is that EAPs discretion at what stage the requirements of Reg 41 are met, whether during the proposed application (pre-application) process or formal application process. You are reminded that a period of at least 30 days must be provided to all potential or registered I&APs to submit comment on the Scoping/EIR and EMPR.</p> <p>8. Should a PPP which nuclide the circulation pre-app Scoping for comment be undertaken prior to submission of an Application to the Department, in terms of Reg 40, the pre-app Scoping may be submitted to the Department for</p>	<p>7. Noted and agreed and initial round of ppp was conducted. Please refer to Appendix 5.1.</p> <p>8. Noted and agreed. Please refer to the Pre-App Scoping and plan of study for comment.</p>	
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				<p>comment. Please ensure a minimum of two printed copies of the pre-app scoping is submitted to the Department for comment.</p> <p>9. In terms of Section 240(2) and (3) of NEMA and Regs 7(2) and 43(2) of the EIA Regs, 2014(as amended), any state department and administers a law relating to a matter of affecting the environment relevant to the application must be requested to comment within 30 days, Please note the EAP is responsible for such consultation, therefore, is requested that the EAP included proof of such notification to the relevant State Department in term of Section 240(2) and (3) of NEMA in the Scoping and EIR.</p> <p>10. Please note that it is an offence in terms of Section 49A(1)(a) of the NEMA for a person to commence with a listed activity unless the CA has granted an EA. Failure to comply shall result in the matter being referred to the</p>	<p>9. Noted and agreed. The Pre-App Scoping and plan of study will be sent out to all I&APs and state organisations for comment. Proof to be provided in the next round.</p> <p>10. Noted and Agreed</p>	
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				<p>Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Directorate of this Department. A person convicted of an offence in term of the above is liable to a fine not exceeding R10 million or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding 10years, or both.</p> <p>11. Please note that eh pre-application consultation is an advisory process and does not pre-empt the outcome of any future application which may be submitted to the Department.</p> <p>12. The Department has the right to revise or withdraw comments or requests further information based on any information received.</p>	<p>11. Noted and Agreed</p> <p>12. Noted and Agreed</p>	
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