



agriculture, environmental affairs,  
rural development and land reform

Department:  
agriculture, environmental affairs,  
rural development and land reform .  
NORTHERN CAPE PROVINCE  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### Sub-Directorate: Research

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Date:	13 July 2021	File:	
To:	Department of Water and Sanitation, Director: Water Regulation and Use	From:	Hannes Gerber
RE: REQUEST FOR TRANSFER OF WATER – STYRKRAAL, NAMAKWA			

**ATTENTION:** Mr Gawie van Dyk

#### 1. Purpose

To request the transfer of 172 ha water entitlement, ring-fenced by the Northern Cape CCAW from the 4 000ha allocation by the then Minister Kader Asmal, to the farm unit, Restant 81 of Styrkraal, owned by the Schamboua CPA.

#### 2. Background

The primary objective of the Schamboua CPA is to develop 200 ha of high value horticultural crops under irrigation at the farm Styrkraal. This development centres on economic growth and empowerment through agricultural development. The farm is situated in the Namakwa district along the bank of Orange River and lies 96 km northeast of Pofadder (28° 44'S; 19° 17'E). The extent of the farm is 10 580.8827 ha of which the bulk of it is only suitable for extensive animal husbandry. A permit (C0007 JHV/NC/2021) has been issued on the land for the cultivation of 494ha. An existing ROD for the development of 115 ha under irrigation has been issued by the Department of Environment and Conservation in 2017 and the EIA process, conducted by EnviroAfrica for the remainder, is in an advanced stage. The existing irrigation water allocation is limited to 420 000 m<sup>3</sup> which is sufficient for the irrigation of 28 ha. An additional 2 580 000 m<sup>3</sup> water from the Orange River Emerging Farmer Settlement Programme for the irrigation of a further 172 has been ring-fenced by the CCAW on the 27<sup>th</sup> of February 2019 for this project.

#### 3. Deliberations

The Schamboua CPA has identified a development partner who will do the development of 200ha of high value crops including dates and raisins, under irrigation. The existing 28ha water entitlement is not sufficient to warrant the construction of water, electricity and building infrastructure required for



such a development in such a remote area. An economic viability assessment, established the minimum scale required for this development at 200ha.

Grant funding to the amount of R 25 million has already been allocated to this development by the Department of Rural Development. Other partners and funding agencies has indicated willingness to participate in this development on condition that irrigation water is secured. These include the IDC, PIC and Raisins SA.

For this reason and to ensure speedy implementation, it is requested that the ring-fenced water entitlement be transferred to the Schamboua Trust.

#### **4. Institutional Arrangements**

This will be in support of the Namakwa Irrigation Initiative as well as the Namakwa Special Economic Zone application.

#### **5. Attachments**

- 1) Styrkraal Development Plan, Soil Suitability Report, Economic Viability Assessment.
- 2) Plough Certificate
- 3) Environmental Authorization (115.29ha)

Hannes Gerber

**SCIENTIFIC MANAGER: RESEARCH**