



**water & sanitation**

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

# **Progress Report on the Bonaero Petition by the Department of Water and Sanitation**

**Presented by:**

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# Purpose

- To brief the Portfolio Committee (PC) on:
  - Status of the engagements of the DWS with Ekurhuleni regarding the Bonaero Park Petition
  - To provide current progress status report on the implementation of the DWS Directive and the action plan submitted to the department by Ekurhuleni Metro
  - Provide a follow up report on sewage overflow from the EMM pump stations, and sewer manholes which affects the residents of Bonaero Park, in Kempton Park

# Background

- The Portfolio Committee convened a briefing on 12 February with the City of Ekurhuleni and the Department of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation
- The purpose of the briefing was to discuss petition/complaint by Bonaero residents requesting the Committee to:
  - Urgently intervene and address the serious health risks residents of the Bonaero Park and Kempton Park in the Ekurhuleni Metro are exposed to on the daily basis

# Resolutions of the PC Meeting of 12 February 2021

- The committee resolved that:
  - The City of Ekurhuleni and Department of Human Settlements to consult the National Treasury on reprioritizing the Urban Settlements Development Grant to urgently address the sewer spillages in Bonaero Park
  - The Department of Water and Sanitation to assist Ekurhuleni Municipality by fast tracking of outstanding Water Use Licence Authorisation Application

# PART 1: DWS ENFORCEMENT ACTION AND COE ACTION PLANS

# Enforcement action by DWS

- The DWS issued the revised Directive to CoE dated 19-02-2021. The contents of the Directive included the following:
  - a) Cease, modify or control any or process causing pollution into the water resources
  - b) Take all reasonable measures to prevent a recurrence of this problem (including the provision of backup in case of electricity outages, and preventing stormwater ingress into the sewer line and pump station.
  - c) Appoint a qualified Civil Engineer to conduct detail assessment of the sewer pipeline feeding into Bonaero; Pomona and Sengereti pump stations
  - d) Submit the new action plan with budgetary provision that can be easily implemented to deal with the problems of wastewater backflow to the residents; prevention of storm water ingress into the sewer line and pump station and insufficient capacity of Aeroparque street sewer line
  - e) Ensure that the effluent to be discharged by industries must meet the effluent discharge permit standards as set out by the Municipality
  - f) Submit progress report on implementation and compliance with the conditions of the Water Use Licence Number: 03/A21B/1/9302 issued

# City of Ekurhuleni response to DWS Directive

- CoE replied to Directive in a letter dated 03 March 2021
- CoE indicated the following recurrent operational challenges of the Blaaupan sewer line:
  - Depositing of fatty effluent from food processing industries around the area.
  - Collapsing sewer infrastructure, and
  - Ingress of water via the manholes particularly during the rainy season.
  - The project require specialist studies such as WULA and EIA issuance; and documents required for those authorisations are ready
  - Target date for approval of WULA and EIA is December 2021.
  - CoE requested DWS for WULA application exemption in order to continue with the project
  - The COE has proposed to construct 160mm for about 500m in length which will connect to new 315mm sewer line currently under construction to relieve the pressure on the sewer line running along Aeroparque street.



# Action Plan and project time frames submitted by COE

Description	Status	Anticipated dates for completion	Response by DWS
<b>Blaaupan 1km Sewer)</b>			
Design of Replacement line	Done	Done	Not submitted to DWS
Specialist Studies for EIA and WULA	Done	Done	Not Submitted to DWS
Public Participation for EIA and WULA	Done	Done	Not Submitted to DWS
Budget allocations	Done	Done	Not done
Approval of EIA	Not done	December 2021 (time can be shortened if exemption is granted)	Not submitted to DWS
Approval of WULA	Not done	December 2021 (time can be shortened if exemption is granted)	Not Submitted to DWS
Construction	Not done	June 2022	Timeframe too far to address the sewer spillages challenges

# Action Plan and project time frames submitted by COE

PROJECT NAME	WULA	EIA	BUDGET	AMOUNT	TIMEFRAME	TARGET FY	COMMENTS By CoE	Response by DWS
<b>Pomona Major Sewer Outfall System</b>								
Bonaero Park Sewer Pumpstation to Pomona Pump Station	Yes	Yes	No	R143 million	18 months	2022/23	Project implementation ready subject to availability of funds	USDG Not Reprioritised
Blaaupan sewer pump station to Pomona pump station	No	No	No	R109 million	12 months	2023/24	Project not implementation ready	USDG Not Reprioritised  WULA / Directive Action plan not submitted to DWS
Pomona pump station to Glen Marais (discharged at corners Fried and Mulder Steets manhole)	Completed							

# Action Plan and project time frames submitted by COE

PROJECT NAME	WULA	EIA	BUDGET	AMOUNT	TIMEFRAME	TARGET FY	COMMENTS By CoE	Response by DWS
Pomona Pump Station to Serengeti pump station	Yes	Yes	No	167 million	18 m	2022/23	Project Implementation Can be implemented immediately subject to availability of funds	USDG Not Reprioritised
Serengeti pump station to Hartebeesfontein WWTW (65 MI)	No	No	No	TBA	TBA	2023/24	Project is not implementation ready	Project not ready  All pumps must work, therefore no immediate challenge
Blauupan sewer line pump station	No (in progress)	No (in progress)	No	R10 million	3 month	2021/22	Project can be implemented immediately subject to DWS invoking Section 19 of the	Directive issued  CoE failed to submit detailed plan and actions plan as per Directive

## **PART 2: STATUS OF WWTW INFRASTRUCTURE IN KEMPTON PARK AS AT 20 MAY 2021**

- FURTHER ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS AND FINDINGS BY DWS**
- RECOMMENDATIONS**

# Status of WWTW Infrastructure as at 20 May 2021

## - Findings and Further enforcement actions by DWS

- Following the request for a meeting, progress report was requested and with the report submitted by COE, no progress was noted on this matter.
- Therefore the Regulation Directorate of DWS conducted follow-up inspection on 20 May 2021 in Kempton Park.
- The following areas were inspected:
  - Bonaero Park Pump station - No progress, spillage continues
  - Marignane drive sewer line upgrade - Project not started
  - Aeroparque street sewer line - traces of sewer spillage and pooling
  - Pomona Pump station- only one pump and manholes spilling
  - Sengereti Pump station is operating well - possibly due to some sewer not reaching the plant due to spillages upstream

# Further enforcement actions by DWS and findings

## i) Bonaero Pump station:

- The pump station services the northern section of Bonaero Park
- The pump station consists of two pumps both were operational during the site visit.
- The pump station was operational during the visit. However overflow from the pan was daylighting on the west side of the pumpstation and the extent of the smell around the area and north of great north Road was terrible.

# Further enforcement actions by DWS and findings

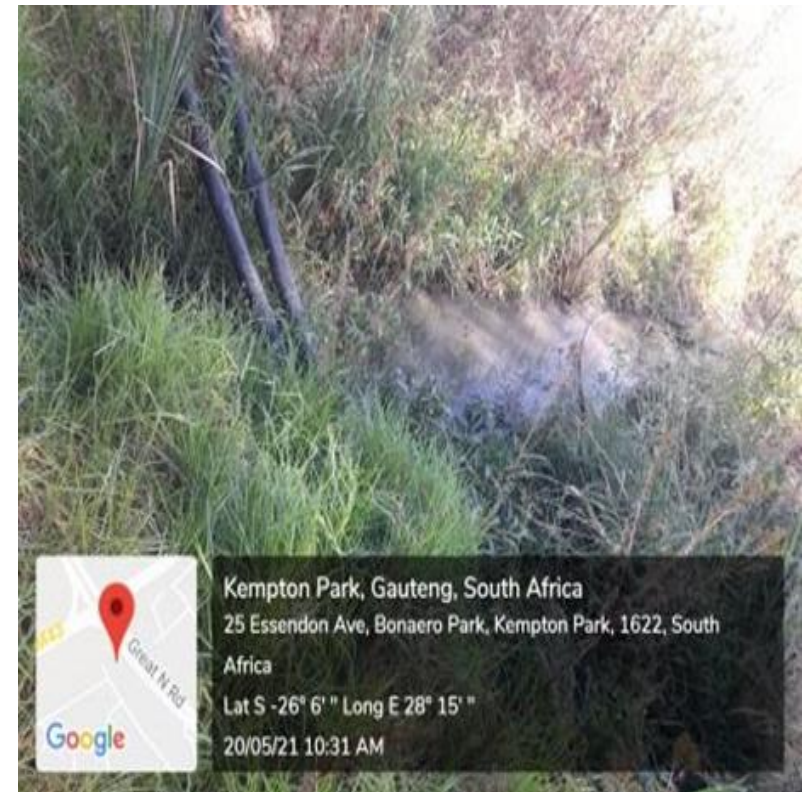
- **ii) Marignane drive sewer line upgrade:**
  - This sewer line is located within the wetland area of Bonaero Birds Sanctuary wherein manholes overflow occurred
  - When the water level at the wetland increases during rainfall season, water ingress into the sewer pipeline and the Bonaero pump station fails to cope with the flow.
  - No progress of ongoing refurbishment/ cleaning & sweeping and upgrade was observed during the follow up site visit on 20 May 2021
  - COE has indicated that the documentation for the submission of the Water Use License and Environmental Impact Assessment applications are ready
  - However, the DWS has not received the submission by Ekurhuleni for WULA or proof that these have been submitted as indicated
  - The City Ekurhuleni indicated that they have set aside funds for construction to commence immediately but there were no signs of project implementation

# Further enforcement actions by DWS and findings

## Marignane drive new uncompleted Sewer line



## Sewer overflow next to Bonaero pump station



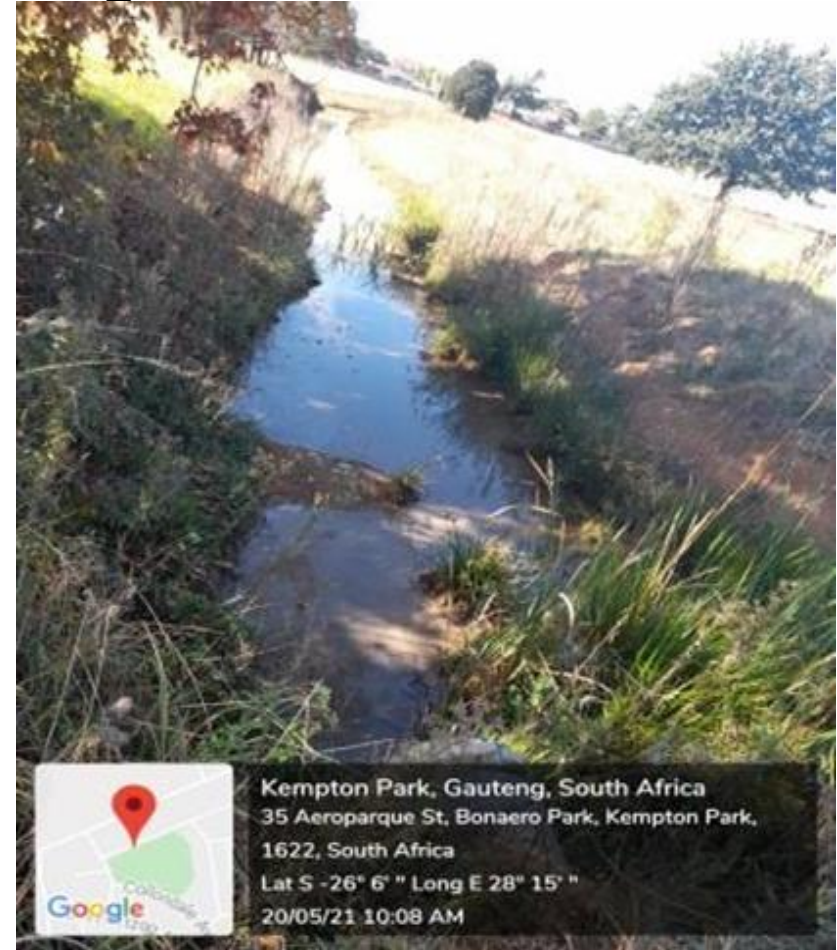


# Further enforcement actions by DWS and findings

## iii) Aeroparque street sewer line:

- This is the sewer line that also collects wastewater coming from IN2 Foods company.
- Traces of Sewer manholes overflow next to house 33 was observed during the site visit.
- The sewage overflows and enters the storm water drain to the storm water dam at the park.
- Furthermore COE indicated that City has engaged Gauteng Industrial Development Zone, Jewellery Manufacturing and In2food to install new sewer line which will divert effluent away from problematic Bonaero Park Residential area sewer line.
- The proposal is to construct 160mm for about 500m in length which will connect to new 315mm sewer line currently under construction.
- This will relieve the pressure on sewer line running along Aeroparque street. **No progress on this project was provided by COE**

# Further enforcement actions by DWS and findings



# Further enforcement actions by DWS and findings

## iv) Pomona Pump station

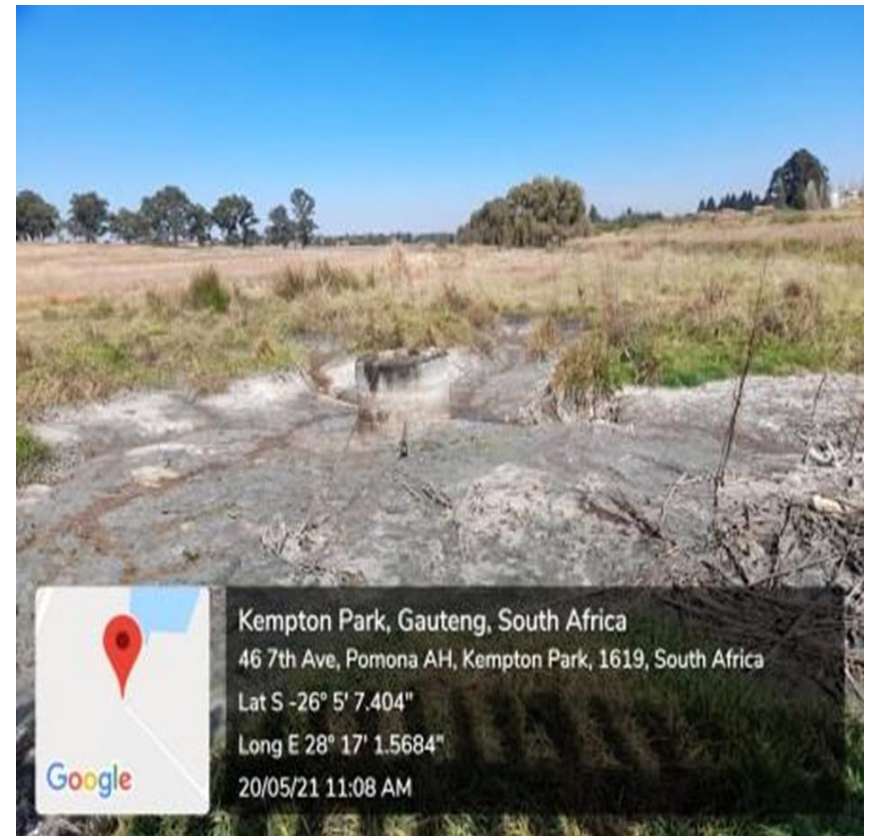
- The services the bulk of the currently developed areas of Pomona and Glen Marais.
- The station consists of two pumps of which one was operational during the visit and the other pump was non-functional (not at the pump house).
- The sewage was overflowing from the manhole next to the pump station into the stream which leads into the Rietvlei Dam which is the source of water for City of Tshwane.
- There is frequent overflow of sewage at the pump station due to power failure as there is no standby generator.

# Further enforcement actions by DWS and findings

Manhole overflow at Pomona pumpstation.



Overflow of sewer manhole at the pump station due power failure



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# Further enforcement actions by DWS and findings

## v) Sengereti Pump station

- The pump station was operational during the visit
- However, only one pump was operational
- A standby generator is in place but was found not to be operational

# Further enforcement actions by DWS and findings

- Contravention of Section 19(1) of the National Water Act by failure to take reasonable measures to prevent pollution that is recurring at:
  - a) Bonaero Park pump station
  - b) Marignane drive sewer line
  - c) Aeroparque street sewer line
  - d) Pomona Pump station
  - e) Sengereti Pump station

# Recommendations

- COE to submit Interim measures to address the situation recurring spillages
- COE to give their consultant stringent time limes to compile the Authorization Application and Consult with the Authorisation Unit at DWS Provincial Office to fast-track the Water Use Authorisation process, since it was indicated that the documents were not submitted and the Consultant was only appointed on 21 May 2021
- COE must also submit the progress report for installation of new sewer line which will divert effluent away from problematic Bonaero Park Residential area sewer line
- COE must ensure that second pumps at Pomona and Sengereti pump stations are in place and operational all the time.
- COE must address the issue of stand-by working generator at the pump stations for use during power failure. DWS to consider further enforcement against COE
- DWS must consider legal measures (civil litigation) to compel the municipality to implement the plans

# Thank you

