

Appendix H: Geohydrology



environmental affairs

Department: Environmental Affairs REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

DETAILS OF SPECIALIST AND DECLARATION OF INTEREST

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Application for authorisation in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998), as amended and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2010

PROJECT TITLE

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE PROPOSED CONTINUOUS ASH DISPOSAL FACILITY FOR THE MATIMBAPOWER STATION IN LEPHALALE, LIMPOPO PROVINCE

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I act as the independent specialist in this application

I will perform the work relating to the application in an objective manner, even if this results in views and findings that are not favourable to the applicant

I declare that there are no circumstances that may compromise my objectivity in performing such work;

I have expertise in conducting the specialist report relevant to this application, including knowledge of the Act, regulations and any guidelines that have relevance to the proposed activity;

I will comply with the Act, regulations and all other applicable legislation;

I have no, and will not engage in, conflicting interests in the undertaking of the activity;

I undertake to disclose to the applicant and the competent authority all material information in my possession that reasonably has or may have the potential of influencing - any decision to be taken with respect to the application by the competent authority; and - the objectivity of any report, plan or document to be prepared by myself for submission to the competent authority;

all the particulars furnished by me in this form are true and correct; and

I realise that a false declaration is an offence in terms of Regulation 71 and is punishable in terms of section 24F of the Act.

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HYDROGEOLOGICAL STUDY: ASH DISPOSAL FACILITY FOR THE MATIMBA POWER STATION AND CONVEYER BELT IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Report

Version - 1 May 2014



Royal HaskoningDHV GCS Project Number: 12-204



Hydrogeological Study - Ash Disposal Facility for the Matimba Power Station and Conveyer Belt Impact Assessment

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

GCS undertook hydrogeological studies, including an initial desktop study, followed by detailed site investigations of both non-intrusive, intrusive and characterisation nature for the proposed continuous ash disposal facility for Matimba Power Station. All studies were conducted in order to comply with the EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) and Waste Management Licensing (WML) process.

GCS assessed all available geological and hydrogeological data as part of the hydrogeological investigation within the study area (8km radius with the Matimba Power Station as the centre point). All existing groundwater data obtained from previous GCS projects, data provided by the client as well as government data was reviewed and included as part of the assessment.

Topography & Hydrology

The general topography of the area slopes in an easterly direction towards the Sandloop River, which is a non-perennial river flowing in a north easterly direction towards the Mokolo River. The Mokolo River is a large perennial river, which is a tributary of the Limpopo River. The Sandloop River was highlighted as a sensitive receptor. It is situated within the eastern portion of the 8km buffer zone.

Geological Setting

The existing Matimba Ash disposal facility and southern portions of the 8km buffer is underlain by the Mogalakwena Formation of the Waterberg Group. The Formation is comprised of coarse grained purplish brown sandstone.

The Eenzaamheid Fault separates the Waterberg Group in the south from the Karoo Supergroup sediments underlying the remainder of the 8km buffer area to the north. The Swartrant and Grootegeluk Formations (Ecca Group) of the Karoo Supergroup are located in the central, western and eastern portions of the 8km buffer. The Swartrant Formation consists of sandstone, gritstone, mudstone and coal and the Grootegeluk Formation consists of mudstone, carbonaceous shale and coal. The Daarby Fault separates the Swartrant Formation from the Clarens Formation (Stormberg Group) to the north of the buffer area. The Clarens Formation consists of fine grained cream coloured sandstone.

An overview of the structural geology indicates the presence of several faults, namely Eenzaamheid fault, Daarby fault and Zoetfontein fault, located north of the existing Ash disposal facility.

The geological structures can either enhance or impede the groundwater potential in the area by increasing the permeability and transmissivity of the host rock. Secondary processes, such as faulting and fracturing may be associated with enhanced aquifer conditions.

Hydrogeological Setting

According to the 1:500 000 Hydrogeological Map of Polokwane 2326 (2003), the southern portion of the study area, south of the Eenzaamheid fault as well as the Grootegeluk Formation is mostly associated with fractured aquifers based on the geology. The average groundwater yields associated with these aquifers, range from 0.5-2 l/s. Numerous faults transect the study area. Lithology north of the Eenzaamheid fault consists of intergranular and fractured aquifers associated with the Swartrant and Clarens Formations with yields ranging from 0.5-2.0 l/s for the Swartrant Formation and 0.1-0.5l/s for the Clarens Formation.

Groundwater occurs within the joints, bedding planes, and along dolerite contacts within the Waterberg Group sediments. Groundwater potential is generally low in these rocks, with 87% of borehole with yields less than 3 l/s.

The desktop study conducted revealed the presence of numerous NGA (National groundwater archive) boreholes (data obtained from the Department of Water Affairs) and monitoring boreholes that are currently included within the overall Matimba Power Station and Grootegeluk Mine monitoring program.

A review of the existing groundwater quality and groundwater monitoring programs currently implemented at Matimba Power Station indicated high concentrations of the indicator parameters (electrical conductivity, sodium, chloride and sulphate) within most boreholes located downgradient of the current ash disposal facility. The water quality was compared to the SANS (South African National Standard) 241-1:2011 water quality standards for drinking water as well as the target values of the South African Water Quality Guidelines for Domestic Water Use (SAWQG) as published by the Department of Water Affairs (DWA) which is used as a guideline. Two boreholes, B29 and B31 indicate anomalous concentrations of the indicator elements when compared with up-gradient monitoring boreholes. The non-compliance of the water quality confirm the impact of the existing ash disposal facility on the water quality, however in certain boreholes, the ambient water quality is non-compliant with several parameters. Boreholes further downgradient indicated better water quality and were more compliant with the standards indicating the pollution plume is localised.

Detailed Hydrogeological Investigation

Two site alternatives were considered during the EIA Phase, namely Alternative 1 located south of the Matimba Power Station (adjacent to the existing ash disposal facility) and Alternative 2 located north of the Matimba Power Station located on portions of farm Vooruit 449 LQ, Droogeheuvel 447LQ, Ganzepan 446 LQ and Appelvlakte 448 LQ (refer to Figure 4.1).

Site Alternative 1

A detailed hydrocensus was conducted as part of the hydrogeological investigation whereby properties within a 2km radius of Alternative 1 were visited. During the visit, details which were recorded included water use type, volumes of abstraction, water levels and coordinates were obtained.

Majority of the boreholes identified surrounding Alternative 1 during the hydrocensus were Matimba monitoring boreholes. In total 10 water levels were recorded in these boreholes. The water levels ranged from 5.63mbgl to 21.47mbgl. Only one of the 12 boreholes identified, was a production boreholes, the remainder were Matimba monitoring boreholes. The production borehole is used for domestic purposes as well as stock watering.

In total, four new monitoring boreholes surrounding Alternative 1 were drilled in order to expand the existing groundwater monitoring program. MA1 was drilled upgradient and MA2, MA3 and MA4 were drilled downgradient with depths which ranged from 15m to 40m.

The groundwater flow direction for site Alternative 1 is generally in an easterly direction. The flow direction contours were based on water levels collected from 10 boreholes. The flow direction associated with the eastern portion of the current ash disposal area is somewhat different to the general easterly direction. This is most likely due to potential seepage occurring from the ash disposal facility resulting in shallower water levels immediately downgradient of the ash disposal facility.

Short duration constant discharge tests were performed to determine the aquifer's response to stress (constant pumping) and to be able to calculate the aquifers hydraulic parameters. Aquifer testing was conducted on MA1 & MA2, which indicated relatively low transmissivities which ranged from 0.04 to 0.06 m²/day.

A review of the chemistry of the Matimba Power Station monitoring boreholes sampled, indicated a general trend with similar parameters which generally exceeded the SANS 241-1:2011 water quality standards. Most of these parameters indicated concentrations which exceeded the relevant standards. Indicator elements as identified using the pollution index include; TDS; chloride; sulphate; calcium; sodium; manganese and magnesium.

Majority of the boreholes indicated poor water quality with high concentrations of indicator elements. This was with the exception of the newly drilled upgradient borehole MA1, P03 and P20. The chemistry results of the remaining boreholes indicated the effect of the current ash disposal facility on the groundwater environment.

Based on the risk rating of the site, Alternative 1 is identified as the most suitable site for the ash disposal facility and will have the smallest impact due to the following reasons:

- Depth to water level Slightly deeper when compared with Alternative 2;
- Presence of intrusive lithologies Further distance to intrusive lithologies in comparison to Alternative 2;
- Proximity of production boreholes Only 1 production borehole was identified in the 2km radius of the site compared to the 13 production boreholes in use surrounding Alternative 2.
- The risk rating of Alternative 1 is reduced by placing the ash disposal facility adjacent to the existing ash disposal facility where a contamination plume already exists and which was confirmed to be localised during the investigation.

The following boreholes are currently being monitored by GHT Consulting: P01, P03, P02, P31, P29, P23 and P20. Boreholes GHT 01 and GHT 02 are newly drilled boreholes by GHT Consulting. MA 01 and MA 02 are newly drilled boreholes by GCS. Borehole HP 01 is a privately owned production borehole used for garden irrigation & stock watering. All these boreholes should be included in the proposed monitoring plan for site Alternative 1. Boreholes MA1 and HP01 can be monitored bi-annually whereas the remainder of boreholes should be monitored quarterly.

Site Alternative 2

A detailed hydrocensus was conducted as part of the hydrogeological investigation whereby properties within a 2km radius of Alternative 2 were visited. During the visit, details including water use type, volumes, water levels and coordinates were obtained.

In total, 16 boreholes were identified surrounding Alternative 2 including the boreholes drilled for this project. The water levels ranged from 17mbgl to 23.94mbgl. The water use is mostly for domestic purposes as well as stock watering.

The geophysical investigation did not confirm the presence of younger intrusive formation or fault zones within the footprint of the proposed ash disposal facility.

The drilling at site Alternative 2 included the installation of one downgradient borehole on the farm Droogeheuwel, namely MA5 which was drilled to a depth of 40 metres. No further boreholes were drilled surrounding this option based on the presence of existing boreholes which were used as monitoring boreholes, namely GPN05 and APV02.

The groundwater flow direction for site Alternative 2 is in an easterly direction. The flow direction contours were based on water levels collected from eight boreholes surrounding the site.

The short duration constant discharge test was performed to determine the aquifer's response to stress (constant pumping) and to be able to calculate the aquifers hydraulic parameters. Aquifer testing was conducted on GPN05, APV02 and MA5, which indicated transmissivities which ranged from 0.1 to 6.67 m²/day.

A comparison in the groundwater chemistry was made between the boreholes surrounding site Alternative 1 and site Alternative 2; there is a clear distinction between the results. Although several boreholes associated with site Alternative 2 indicated elevated concentrations of parameters mentioned earlier which appear to be problematic, it is clear that the concentrations in general are much lower than those associated with boreholes surrounding site Alternative 1.

Boreholes APV02, GPN05 and MA05 which were included in this investigation should be monitored on a quarterly basis. Additionally, boreholes NGA090, GPN07 and DHL08 located at a further distance from the proposed site should also be monitored on a quarterly basis.

Conveyer belt route

During the sensitivity mapping process, the following components were identified as sensitive areas; faults or lineaments and production boreholes. The conveyer belt does not traverse/intersect any production boreholes but does traverse the Daarby fault.

The conveyer belt route will traverse two faults, namely the Daarby fault and another north of the Daarby fault. However, the only adverse environmental impacts of conveyor belts for coal transport are coal dust losses during loading, unloading, or transport. Therefore the risk is associated with this is considered minimal.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

- COC Contaminant of Concern
- DWA Department of Water Affairs
- EC Electrical Conductivity
- EIA Environmental Impact Assessment
- ICP MS Inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry
- **GRIP** Groundwater Resource Information Project
- **GRDM** Groundwater Resource Directed Measures
- LCT Leachable Concentration Thresholds
- MAMSL Metres above mean sea level
- MBCH Meters below collar height
- MBGL meters below ground level
- NEMA National Environmental Management Act
- NEMWA National Environmental Management Waste Act
- NGA National Groundwater Archive
- SANAS South African National Accreditation System
- SANS South African National Standard
- SAWQG South African Water Quality Guidelines for Domestic Water Use
- SWL Static Water Level
- TDS Total Dissolved Solids
- WML Waste Management Licensing

1 INTRODUCTION

GCS was appointed by Royal HaskoningDHV as a groundwater specialist to undertake the hydrogeological investigation associated with the proposed Matimba Power Station continuous ash disposal facility and conveyor belt which forms part of the EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) and Waste Management Licensing (WML) application process.

Matimba Power Station, located in the Limpopo Province close to Lephalale (Ellisras), is a 3990MW installed capacity base load coal fired power station, consisting of 6 units. Matimba is a direct dry cooling power station, an innovation necessitated by the severe shortage of water in the area where it is situated. The station obtains its coal from the Exxaro Grootegeluk Colliery for the generation of electricity.

Ash is generated as a by-product from combustion of coal from the power station and Matimba produces approximately 6 million tons of ash annually. This ash is currently being disposed by means of 'dry ashing' approximately three kilometres south of the Matimba power station on the Eskom owned Farm Zwartwater 507 LQ.

Matimba Power Station envisages the continuation of ash disposal (dry ashing) and therefore, Eskom requires the licensing of its proposed continuous ash disposal facility in terms of the National Environmental Management Waste Act (NEM:WA), Act 59 of 2008 and the EIA Regulations (2010) promulgated under the National Environmental Management Act (NEMA) Act 107 of 1998 (as amended) as well as the National Water Act, 1998 (NWA) (Act No 36 of 1998).

The development of a continuous development is an ash disposal facility site with the following specifications:

- Capacity of airspace of 297 million m³ (remaining); and
- Ground footprint of 651 Ha (Remaining fenced Area including pollution control dams).
- This ash disposal facility will be able to accommodate the ashing requirements of the power station for the next 44 years.

However, the EIA process requires the investigation of alternatives and as such an 8km technically feasible radius was delineated from the Matimba Power Station (source of the ash) to identify any potential alternative sites. It is within this 8km radius that a technically feasible and environmentally least sensitive site/s has to be identified. Two Site Alternatives were considered, namely Alternative 1 and Alternative 2 (refer to Figure 4.1).

2 SCOPE OF WORK

The scope of work for the EIA phase of the hydrogeological investigation is detailed as follows:

- Desktop study, including a review of previous GCS reports for similar studies conducted in the area. Review of consultant reports made available by the client;
- Review of hydrocensus data obtained from previous studies conducted by GCS;
- Gap analysis all sensitive receptors and data limitations were highlighted in the report.
- Intrusive field investigation conducted for both site alternatives including:
 - Hydrocensus within a 2km radius of the alternative site;
 - o Geophysical investigations;
 - Drilling on additional monitoring boreholes;
 - Aquifer testing of newly drilled monitoring boreholes;
 - o Groundwater sampling of newly drilled boreholes and Hydrocensus boreholes;
 - o Analysis of chemistry;
 - Risk rating and impact assessment of the alternative sites and proposed conveyor belt;
 - Proposed groundwater monitoring plan.

0

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Desktop Study

GCS assessed all available geological and hydrogeological data. All existing groundwater data was reviewed and assessed during the desktop study.

A study of the 1: 50 000 topographical, 1: 250 000 geological and 1:500 000 hydrogeological maps and satellite images were conducted during the desktop study. All relevant information was sourced from the client as well as from the relevant government departments where available. Any existing groundwater data captured in the National Groundwater Archive (NGA), GRIP (Groundwater Resource Information Project) obtained from the Department of Water Affairs was utilised.

The following data sources were used during the study:

- Topographic map (1:50 000): 2327 DA and DC;
- Geological map (1:250 000): 2326 Ellisras;
- The groundwater resources of the Republic of South Africa, sheets 1 and 2 (Vegter 2045);
- GRDM, Groundwater Resource Directed Measures. (GRDM) Training Manual; and
- The National Groundwater Archive (NGA), Department of Water Affairs;
- GHT Consulting Scientists, 2012. Matimba Power Station, Routine Monitoring Phase 61, First Quarter 2012, Final Report. Report number: RVN630.1/1321.
- Waste Classification of Ash Disposed at the Existing Ash Disposal Facilities conducted by Jeffares & Green;
- Groundwater monitoring data as part of the first quarter monitoring conducted In 2012 by GHT Consulting Services;
- Audit and site assessment data obtained by GHT Consulting Services in May 2011;

4 SITE DESCRIPTION - ASH DISPOSAL FACILITY

4.1 Project Details

The Matimba Power Station is located in the Limpopo Province close to Ellisras. Ash is generated as a by-product due to the combustion of coal from the power station. This ash is currently being disposed by means of 'dry ashing' at an ash disposal facility located on Eskom owned land, approximately 3km south of the Matimba Power Station.

The EIA process requires the investigation of alternatives and as such an 8km technically feasible radius was delineated from the Matimba Power Station (source of the ash) to identify any potential alternative sites. It is within this 8km radius that a technically feasible and environmentally least sensitive site has to be identified for the establishment of the ash disposal facility. Two Alternatives were considered, namely:

- Alternative 1 located adjacent to the existing ash disposal facility, south of the Power Station.
- Alternative 2: located north of the Matimba Power Station located on portions of the farms Vooruit 449 LQ, Droogeheuvel 447LQ, Ganzepan 446 LQ and Appelvlakte 448 LQ.

4.2 Topography and Hydrology

The topography of the area slopes in an easterly direction (Figure 4.1) towards the Sandloop River, which is a non-perennial river flowing in a north easterly direction towards the Mokolo River. The Mokolo River is a large perennial river, which is a tributary of the Limpopo River. The Sandloop River is a sensitive receptor occurring within the eastern portion of the 8km buffer.

4.3 Surrounding Land Use - Alternative 1

The land use surrounding the current ash disposal facility and the study area is as follows:

North: Natural veld

East: Marapong informal settlement, Onverwacht suburb and Sandloop River

South: Natural veld, Sandloop River and existing Ash Disposal Facility

West: Medupi Power Station and Grootegeluk Mine

4.4 Surrounding Land Use - Alternative 2

The land use surrounding Alternative site 2 is as follows:

North: Natural veld

East: Natural veld

South: Natural veld

West: Natural veld, Grootegeluk Mine

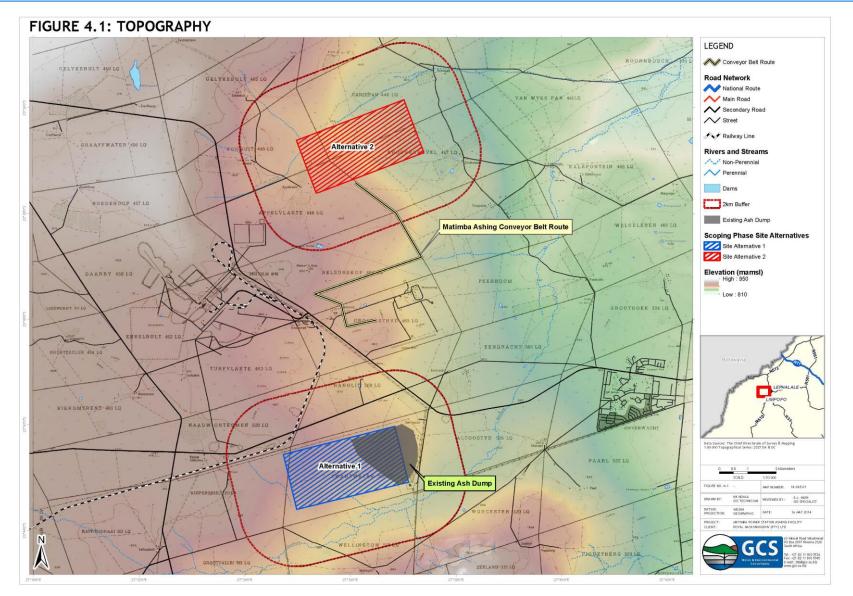


Figure 4.1: Study Area Topography Map

5 GEOLOGICAL DESKTOP STUDY

Sediments and volcanics of the Waterberg Group and Karoo Supergroup underlie the study area within the 8km radius. Table 5.1 presents the lithostratigraphy of the area.

Table 5.1: Lithostratigraphy

| Age | Supergro | up / Group | Formation | Alternative Name | Lithology |
|--------------------------------|-----------|------------|------------------|----------------------|--|
| Jurassic | | | Letaba | Letaba Formation | Basalt |
| Triassic | | C | Clarens | Clarens Formation | Fine-grained cream-coloured sandstone |
| Triassic | | Stormberg | Lisbon* | Elliot Formation | Red mudstone and siltstone |
| Triassic | | | Greenwich* | Molteno Formation | Red sandstone and conglomerate |
| Triassic | | Beaufort | Eendragtpan* | Beaufort Group | Variegated shale |
| Permian | Karoo | | Grootegeluk* | Upper Ecca Group | Mudstone, carbonaceous shale, coal |
| Permian | | Ecca | Goedgedacht * | Middle Ecca Group | Gritty mudstone, mudstone, sandstone, coal |
| Permian | | | Swartrant* | Lower Ecca Group | Sandstone, gritstone, mudstone, coal |
| Permian / Carbonifero us | | Dwyka | Wellington* | Dwyka Group | Mudstone, siltstone, minor grit |
| Carbonifero us | | | Waterkloof* | Dwyka Group | Diamictite, mudstone |
| Mokolian | Waterberg | | Mogalakwena | Mogalakwena Fm | Coarse-grained purplish brown sandstone |

*Not yet approved by the South African Committee on Stratigraphy (SACS)

5.1 Site Geology

Figure 5.1, a portion of the 1:250 000 geological map 2326 Ellisras, shows the geological setting of the study area. The Matimba Ash disposal facility and southern portions of the 8km buffer is underlain by the Mogalakwena Formation of the Waterberg Group. The Formation is comprised of coarse grained purplish brown sandstone.

The Eenzaamheid Fault separates the Waterberg Group in the south from the Karoo Supergroup sediments underlying the remainder of the 8km buffer area to the north. The Swartrant and Grootegeluk Formations of the Karoo Supergroup are located in the central, western and eastern portions. The Swartrant Formation consists of sandstone, gritstone, mudstone and coal and the Grootegeluk Formation consists of mudstone, carbonaceous shale and coal.

The Daarby Fault separates the Swartrant Formation from the Clarens Formation to the north of the buffer area. The Clarens Formation consists of fine grained cream coloured

sandstone. No faults are located within the Waterberg Group sediments within the southern portions of the 8km buffer. Several smaller faults are associated with the Swartrant Formation, Grootegeluk Formation and Clarens Formation of the Karoo Supergroup.

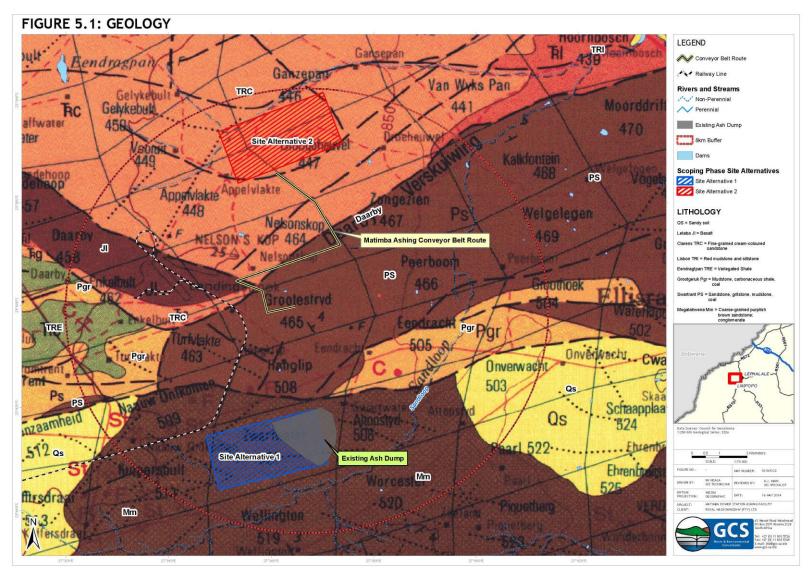


Figure 5.1: Geological Map of the Study Area

5.2 Structural Geology

The study areas are located within the Waterberg Coalfield, which comprises a graben structure with the Eenzaamheid fault forming the southern boundary and the northern boundary is delineated by the Zoetfontein fault. Archaean granite rocks outcrop to the north of the Zoetfontein fault and sediments of the Waterberg Group outcrop to the south of the Eenzaamheid fault.

The geological structures can enhance the groundwater potential in the area by increasing the permeability and transmissivity of the host rock. Secondary processes, such as faulting and fracturing, can create secondary fractured rock aquifers.

5.2.1 The Daarby Fault

The Daarby Fault is a major northeast then northwest trending fault, assumed to be a combination of two faults.

The down throw (amount of vertical displacement of rocks due to faulting) of 360m to the north serves to bring the Grootegeluk Formation rocks to the south in contact with the younger Clarens Formation sandstone and Letaba Formation basalts in the north. Thus the fault divides the coalfield into a shallow (opencast) coal area to the south of the Daarby Fault, and a deep north coal area. The Daarby fault is impermeable (GCS, 2009)

5.2.2 The Eenzaamheid Fault

The Eenzaamheid fault has a throw of 250m to the north and the fault is near vertical Figure 5.1. The fault brings the up thrown Waterberg Group sediments on the south side of the fault in contact with shallow coal on the northern side of the fault.

The permeability of the Eenzaamheid fault is not clear, initial groundwater contours indicated that the fault was impermeable and that dewatering at the mine did not impact on the Waterberg Group sediments to the south of the fault. Subsequent groundwater modelling (GCS, 2009) indicates that plume migration will occur along the fault, indicating an increased transmissivity along the fault between the two geological units.

The Eenzaamheid fault has enhanced groundwater potential and could be targeted for groundwater resource development. The fault can also act as a preferential flow path for groundwater and potential contamination. Any possible contaminant sources should not be constructed on the fault as the fault would facilitate the migration of contaminants off site, which could possibly impact on surrounding groundwater users.

5.2.3 Minor faulting

Associated step faults are identified within the area, especially where the Eenzaamheid and Daarby faults are in the closest proximity (approximately 2 km). The associated faults have varying strikes (orientation of a geologic feature), throws, and throw direction. These faults have increased the in situ permeability of these rocks and influence the groundwater flow patterns.

Indications from exploration drilling are that the Daarby and Eenzaamheid faults are linked. This area also acts as a groundwater flow barrier as dewatering occurs within the Grootegeluk and Eendragtpan Formations, but not in the Swartrant Formation, as recognised from the groundwater modelling.

5.3 The Grootegeluk Coal Deposits

The Grootegeluk coal mine produces coking coal from the Grootegeluk and Goedgedacht Formations (Upper and Middle Ecca Group).

The Grootegeluk Formation comprises intercalated shale and bright coal, with an average depth of 60 m. Coking and middlings grade coal are obtained from this formation.

Opencast mining occurs within the shallow coal, south of the Daarby Fault. Dewatering occurs which has led to the decline of the groundwater levels around the workings.

Coal deposits occur on farms:

- Eenzaamheid (north of the Eenzaamheid fault)
- Naauwontkomen (north of the Eenzaamheid fault)
- Appelvlakte (at depth)
- Nelsonskop (at depth)
- Droogeheuvel (at depth)
- Zongezien (at depth)

6 HYDROGEOLOGICAL DESKTOP STUDY

6.1 Regional Hydrogeology

The groundwater potential of the formations located in the study area is limited in their pristine state due to low permeability, storage, and transmissivity. Secondary processes, such as weathering, fracturing, etc., are required to enhance the groundwater potential.

Based on regional data, as compiled on the 1:500 000 hydrogeological map 2326 Polokwane, the following hydrogeological information is available for the formations on site:

| Geology | Hydrogeology |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | Basic extrusive rocks (basalt) |
| Letaba Formation | Intergranular and fractured aquifers |
| | Borehole yields 0.1 to 0.5 l/s |
| | Argillaceous and arenaceous rocks |
| Clarens Formation | Intergranular and fractured aquifers |
| | Borehole yields 0.1 to 0.5 l/s |
| | Upper and middle Ecca (Grootegeluk) |
| Ecca group | Fractured aquifers |
| | Borehole yields 0.5 to 2.0 l/s |
| | Lower Ecca |
| Ecca Group (Swartrant) | Intergranular and fractured aquifers |
| | Borehole yields 0.5 to 2.0 l/s |
| | Predominately arenaceous rocks |
| Dwyka Group | Fractured aquifers |
| | Borehole yields 0.5 to 2.0 l/s |
| | Predominantly arenaceous rocks |
| Waterberg Group | Fractured aquifers |
| | Borehole yields 0.5 to 2.0 l/s |

Table 6.1Geology and Hydrogeological conditions at site (from Royal
HaskoningDHV, 2013)

6.2 Regional Groundwater Occurrence and Aquifers

Based on the geology within the study area, the structural geology, and the geomorphology, the following conditions can arise to enhance aquifer development within the study area:

- The fractured transition zone between weathered and fresh bedrock
- Fractures along contact zones between the host rocks due to heating and cooling of rocks involved with the intrusions
- Contact zones between sedimentary rocks of different types
- Interbed or bedding plane fracturing
- Openings on discontinuities formed by fracturing
- Faulting due to tectonic forces
- Stratigraphic unconformities
- Zones of deeper weathering
- Fractures related to tensional and decompressional stresses due to off-loading of overlying material
- Groundwater occurs within the joints, bedding planes and along dolerite contacts within the Waterberg Group sediments. Groundwater potential is generally low in these rocks, with 87% of borehole yields < 3 l/s.

6.3 Quaternary Catchment

Data from relevant hydrogeological databases including, the National Groundwater Archive (NGA) was obtained from the Department of Water Affairs. The 8km radius study area fall within two quaternary catchments, namely A42J and A42H as indicated in Table 6.2. Both Site Alternatives fall within quaternary catchment A42J.

| Quaternary Catchment | Total Area (km²) | Recharge mm/a | Current use Mm³/a | Exploitation Potential Mm³/a | Rainfall mm/a |
|-------------------------|---------------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|
| A42J | 1810.8 | 7.25 | 0.19 | 7 | 428 |
| A42H | 1056.6 | 14.77 | 0.06 | 5 | 518 |

Table 6.2: Summarized Quaternary Catchment Information (GRDM, 2010)

6.4 Site Specific Hydrogeology

According to the 1:500 000 Hydrogeological Map of Polokwane 2326 (2003), the southern portion of study area, south of the Eenzaamheid fault as well as the Grootegeluk Formation is mostly associated with fractured aquifers based on the geology. The average groundwater yields associated with these aquifers, range from 0.5-2 l/s.

Numerous faults transect the study area. Lithology north of the Eenzaamheid fault consists of intergranular and fractured aquifers associated with the Swartrant and Clarens Formations with yields ranging from of 0.5-2.0 l/s for the Swartrant Formation and 0.1-0.5l/s for the Clarens Formation.

Borehole information derived from the Department of Water Affairs (DWA), National Groundwater Archive (NGA) and the monitoring data from the power station and Grootegeluk coal mine allowed for an assessment of the hydrogeology, aquifers and water levels in the area.

6.5 Groundwater Levels

Data was collected from the National Groundwater Archive (NGA) boreholes, from the Department of Water Affairs, the GRIP (Groundwater Resource Information Project) database, as well as data supplied from the monitoring boreholes present at Matimba Power Station and the Grootegeluk Mine compiled for previous GCS studies. The localities of these boreholes have been plotted on Figure 6.1 below.

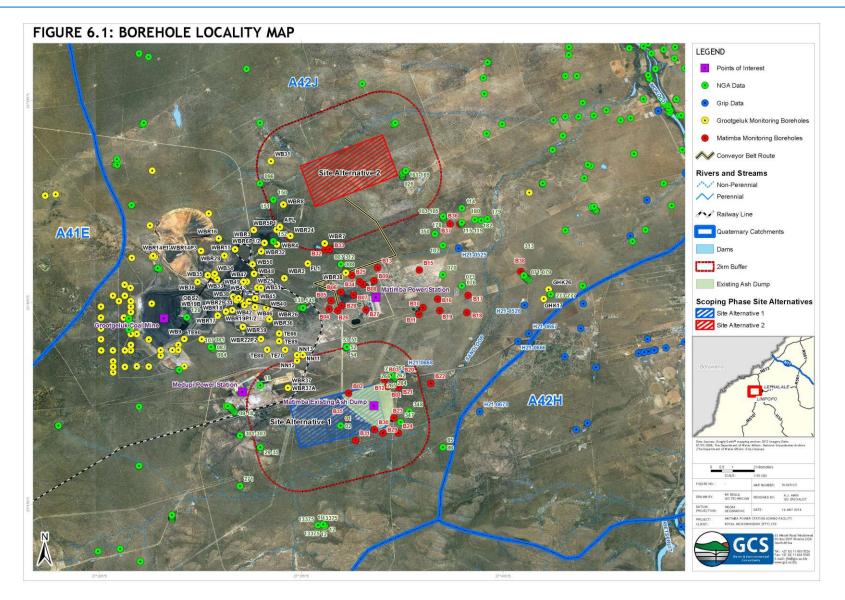


Figure 6.1: Borehole Locality Map

The data for the NGA and GRIP boreholes was compiled for quaternary catchments A42J and A42H. Table 6.3 lists the details of the NGA boreholes plotted on Figure 6.1 located within the 8km buffer. Water level data and water use were not available for all boreholes in the database. The water levels ranged from 1.83 to 60.96 metres below ground level (mbgl), which were measured between 1953 and 1972.

| Geosite Info Identifier | Latitude | Longitude | Water Level Measurement Date | Water Level (mbgl) | Water Use |
|-------------------------------|----------|-----------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|
| 1 | -23.7174 | 27.5997 | - | - | - |
| 2 | -23.7174 | 27.5997 | _ | - | - |
| 7 | -23.6507 | 27.5997 | _ | - | - |
| 8 | -23.6508 | 27.5997 | 1958/04/23 | 27.43 | - |
| 9 | -23.7116 | 27.55553 | _ | - | - |
| 10 | -23.7119 | 27.55581 | - | - | - |
| 11 | -23.7094 | 27.55303 | 1958/02/11 | 30.48 | - |
| 13 | -23.7096 | 27.55359 | 1958/01/04 | 9.14 | - |
| 14 | -23.7099 | 27.55387 | 1958/08/04 | 10.36 | - |
| 15 | -23.7102 | 27.55414 | 1958/07/18 | 21.34 | - |
| 16 | -23.7105 | 27.55442 | 1958/06/04 | 45.72 | - |
| 17 | -23.7107 | 27.5547 | 1958/01/25 | 60.96 | - |
| 18 | -23.711 | 27.55498 | _ | - | - |
| 19 | -23.7007 | 27.56642 | 1958/04/30 | 13.72 | |
| 26 | -23.6144 | 27.62526 | 1960/08/25 | 21.34 | - |
| 29 | -23.7263 | 27.56637 | 1960/02/10 | 22.86 | - |
| 30 | -23.7263 | 27.56637 | 1959/12/14 | 22.86 | - |
| 31 | -23.7263 | 27.56638 | 1961/06/09 | 48.77 | - |
| 33 | -23.7263 | 27.56639 | 1960/10/31 | 18.29 | - |
| 35 | -23.7263 | 27.5664 | 1959/11/24 | 22.86 | - |
| 51 | -23.6849 | 27.6022 | _ | - | - |
| 52 | -23.6849 | 27.60192 | - | - | - |
| 53 | -23.6852 | 27.60192 | 1953/06/05 | 60.96 | - |
| 54 | -23.6855 | 27.60192 | 1953/06/30 | 24.38 | - |
| 70 | -23.6552 | 27.64192 | - | - | - |
| 71 | -23.6555 | 27.67526 | 1957/01/12 | 33.53 | - |
| 72 | -23.6557 | 27.67553 | 1957/01/04 | 27.43 | - |
| 73 | -23.6596 | 27.64972 | - | - | - |
| 74 | -23.656 | 27.67581 | 1951/10/30 | 30.48 | - |
| 75 | -23.6563 | 27.67609 | 1957/12/14 | 33.53 | - |

Table 6.3: NGA Borehole Data within the 8km Buffer

| 7/ | 22 (507 | 27 (107 | | | |
|-----|----------|----------|--------------|-------|-------------------|
| 76 | -23.6597 | 27.6497 | - | - | - |
| 77 | -23.6566 | 27.67637 | - | - | - |
| 78 | -23.6569 | 27.67664 | - | - | - |
| 79 | -23.6571 | 27.67692 | 1957/12/14 | 39.62 | - |
| 83 | -23.6855 | 27.54664 | - | - | - |
| 85 | -23.7263 | 27.64192 | 1956/09/15 | 9.14 | - |
| 86 | -23.7263 | 27.64192 | 1956/10/10 | 6.4 | - |
| 96 | -23.6174 | 27.56637 | - | - | - |
| 102 | -23.643 | 27.64192 | 1965/08/11 | 24.08 | - |
| 103 | -23.631 | 27.64193 | - | - | - |
| 104 | -23.6313 | 27.64192 | 1953/10/07 | 33.53 | - |
| 105 | -23.6316 | 27.64194 | 1958/04/09 | 30.48 | - |
| 107 | -23.593 | 27.66637 | - | - | - |
| 114 | -23.6277 | 27.6497 | 1957/02/02 | 33.53 | - |
| 115 | -23.6338 | 27.6497 | - | _ | - |
| 116 | -23.6341 | 27.64971 | 1955/08/18 | 42.67 | - |
| 117 | -23.6335 | 27.6497 | - | - | - |
| 118 | -23.6341 | 27.64972 | 1955/09/17 | 51.82 | - |
| 119 | -23.6338 | 27.6497 | 1955/10/07 | 35.05 | - |
| 128 | -23.6727 | 27.53609 | | _ | - |
| 150 | -23.6241 | 27.57192 | | _ | |
| 152 | -23.6244 | 27.57192 | 1958/02/19 | 21.34 | - |
| 161 | -23.6146 | 27.62527 | 1960/08/05 | 24.38 | - |
| 162 | -23.6141 | 27.62526 | | | - |
| 162 | -23.6138 | 27.62528 | 1960/08/16 | 27.43 | - |
| 164 | -23.6135 | 27.62526 | 1954/03/02 | 23.77 | - |
| 165 | -23.6124 | 27.62637 | 1990/06/14 | 23.77 | |
| 165 | | | | | - |
| | -23.6121 | 27.62664 | _ | - | - |
| 167 | -23.6127 | 27.62637 | - | - | - |
| 168 | -23.613 | 27.62553 | - | - | - |
| 169 | -23.6132 | 27.62553 | - | - | - |
| 178 | -23.6319 | 27.6422 | 1991/07/25 | 24 | - |
| 179 | -23.6321 | 27.66026 | - | - | - |
| 180 | -23.6324 | 27.65498 | - | - | - |
| 182 | -23.6632 | 27.74414 | - | - | - |
| 261 | -23.6966 | 27.62053 | 1955/10/10 | 3.05 | Stock Watering |

| 262 | -23.6969 | 27.62081 | 1964/10/01 | 20.42 | - |
|-----|----------|----------|------------|-------|-------------------|
| 263 | -23.6969 | 27.62109 | - | - | - |
| 264 | -23.6971 | 27.62137 | 1965/05/11 | 18.29 | Stock Watering |
| 265 | -23.6974 | 27.62164 | 1952/04/28 | 60.96 | - |
| 266 | -23.6977 | 27.62192 | 1952/06/05 | 27.43 | Domestic |
| 271 | -23.7424 | 27.55803 | 1972/07/27 | 23.16 | Stock Watering |
| 273 | -23.6632 | 27.68636 | 1953/12/18 | 35.66 | Irrigation |
| 274 | -23.6632 | 27.6863 | 1980/05/28 | 15 | - |
| 275 | -23.6632 | 27.68637 | 1980/06/03 | 50 | - |
| 276 | -23.6632 | 27.68636 | - | - | - |
| 277 | -23.6632 | 27.68638 | 1980/06/23 | 50 | - |
| 301 | -23.7216 | 27.55803 | 1953/12/05 | 3.35 | Agriculture |
| 302 | -23.7216 | 27.55804 | 1953/11/16 | 1.83 | - |
| 303 | -23.7216 | 27.55804 | 1953/11/16 | 1.83 | - |
| 312 | -23.6507 | 27.59971 | 1954/03/11 | 19.81 | - |
| 347 | -23.716 | 27.62442 | 1995/10/03 | 64 | - |
| 348 | -23.7116 | 27.62803 | - | - | - |
| 10 | -23.7582 | 27.59248 | 1957/09/17 | 7.32 | |
| 12 | -23.7588 | 27.59303 | 1963/11/30 | 18.29 | - |

The GRIP data presented in Table 6.4 has also been plotted on Figure 6.1 indicating five boreholes within the 8km buffer area.

| Borehole ID | Latitude | Longitude | Current status | Water Level (mbgl) | Borehole Depth (m) |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| H21-0668 | -23.69438 | 27.62591 | Destroyed | 32.54 m | - |
| H21-0525 | -23.64426 | 27.64834 | - | - | - |
| H21-0526 | -23.66763 | 27.67558 | - | - | - |
| H21-0667 | -23.67939 | 27.67733 | - | 32.54 | 300 |
| H21-0666 | -23.68264 | 27.67292 | - | 33.31 | 216 |
| H21-0670 | -23.71166 | 27.65713 | - | 3.96 | 213 |

 Table 6.4: GRIP Borehole Data within the 8km Buffer

Monitoring borehole data was obtained for both the Matimba Power Station (Table 6.5) and the Grootegeluk Mine (Table 6.6).

Only data for boreholes located within the 8km buffer and was included in this study. Additional borehole data is presented in Appendix A for reference purposes. The data for the Matimba Power Station was obtained from GHT Consulting Scientists, who conducted the surface and groundwater monitoring from 2005 to 2012.

The groundwater level monitoring for the Matimba Power Station monitoring boreholes located within the 8km radius of the power station are presented in Table 6.5. In total there are 40 boreholes located within this radius, monitoring areas in close proximity to the ash disposal facility as well as the power station, although several boreholes are not functional. The water levels in these boreholes ranged from 2.75mbgl to 29.95mbgl.

Of the boreholes monitoring the existing ash disposal facility, two boreholes have been destroyed, B30 was covered with ash and not sealed correctly, creating a pathway for contaminant transport. B35 has been destroyed due to maintenance work. Borehole B12 is currently blocked (GHT Consulting Scientists, 2012).

| Table 6.5: Matimba Power Station Monitoring Borehole Data (GHT Consulting Scientists | , |
|--|---|
| 2012) | |

| BH ID | Latitude | Longitude | Borehole locality | Depth (m) | Water level (m) |
|-------|------------|-----------|---|--------------|--------------------|
| B01 | -23.701283 | 27.61905 | Monitoring borehole, North-eastern corner of ash stack | 10 | 7.68 |
| B02 | -23.704067 | 27.602933 | Monitoring borehole, northern perimeter of ash stack | 30 | 20.18 |
| B03 | -23.6972 | 27.617717 | Monitoring borehole, northern-eastern corner northern ash water collecting dam P05 | 13 | 14.41 |
| B04 | -23.66935 | 27.594967 | Monitoring borehole western perimeter of old rehabilitated waste site. | 15 | 11.85 |
| B05 | -23.6658 | 27.59565 | Monitoring borehole northern perimeter of old rehabilitated waste site | 15 | 7.42 |
| B06 | -23.662383 | 27.599733 | Monitoring borehole north-eastern corner of CSP, North of transfer house. | 13 | 9 |
| B07 | -23.663607 | 27.604917 | Monitoring borehole northern perimeter of CSP, North of conveyer | 13 | 5.38 |
| B08 | -23.6591 | 27.608867 | Monitoring borehole north western corner of CSP, dirty water runoff dams | 13 | 6 |
| B09 | -23.65755 | 27.613367 | Monitoring borehole north -eastern corner of CSP dirty water run-off dams P02 | 7&25 | 3.78 |
| B10 | -23.6687 | 27.633667 | Monitoring borehole southern corner of station drain dams POD | 6 | 3.75 |
| B11 | -23.671433 | 27.631983 | Monitoring borehole eastern corner of station drain dams POD | 6 | 4.5 |
| B12 | -23.698383 | 27.617867 | Monitoring borehole, south-eastern corner of northern ash water collecting dam P05 | 5.5 | Dry/block ed |
| B13 | -23.65225 | 27.61495 | Monitoring borehole North -Western corner of Marapong.downstream of CSY.B08,B09,B25,&B34 | 13 | 7.45 |
| B14 | -23.50885 | 27.654583 | Monitoring borehole west of Marapong sport grounds. Downstream of CSY,B08,B09,B25,&B13 | 13 | 6.89 |
| B15 | -23.65315 | 27.632083 | Monitoring borehole in Marapong village, house 2883.downstream of CSY,B08,B09,B25,B34,B13&B34 | 14 | 2.75 |
| B16 | -23.665217 | 27.639667 | Monitoring borehole North -East of station drain dams POD on private farm Peerboom 466.downstream from P03,B10 &B11 | 13 | 9.45 |
| B17 | -23.663667 | 27.652267 | Monitoring borehole North -East of station drain dams P03, on the private farm Peerboom 466.downstream from | 30 | No access |

| | | | P03,B11,&B16 | | |
|------|------------|-----------|---|----|---------------------|
| B18 | -23.670735 | 27.651698 | Monitoring borehole east of the station drain dams P03 on private farm Eendracht 505.downstream from P03,B10 & B19 | ~ | 11.31 |
| B19 | -23.669868 | 27.640573 | Monitoring borehole east of station drains dams P03,on the private farm Eendracht 505.downstream from P03,B10,B11 & B19 | ~ | 6.43 |
| B20 | -23.697317 | 27.624133 | Monitoring borehole, east of water return dams P05 next to fence. Downstream of P05, B03, B12 | 17 | 14.47 |
| B21 | -23.701533 | 27.62355 | Monitoring borehole, North-east of ash stack next to fence. Downstream of ash stack, P05, B01, B03 & B12 | 15 | 6.45 |
| B22 | -23.699983 | 27.636833 | Monitoring borehole, north-east of ashing area of private farm Altopostyd 506. Downstream of ash stack, P05, B01, B03, B12, B20 & B21. | 25 | 17.41 |
| B23 | -23.714267 | 27.621667 | Monitoring borehole, eastern perimeter of ash stack & north-eastern corner of eastern ash water collecting dam P06 | 12 | 7.96 |
| B24 | -23.72055 | 27.623517 | Monitoring borehole, north-east of ashing area of private farm Worcester 520. Downstream of ash stack P06, B23 & B29 | 11 | 2.88 |
| B25 | -23.6553 | 27.604267 | Monitoring bore north of CSY inside security area at new development. Downstream of CSP,B06,B07,&B34 | 19 | Damaged |
| B26 | -23.6699 | 27.598367 | Monitoring borehole eastern perimeter of old rehabilitated of old rehabilitated waste site | 13 | Dry |
| B27 | -23.669633 | 27.610067 | Monitoring borehole east of fuel tanks and filling stations in power station area | 9 | 4.46 |
| B28 | -23.6679 | 27.600017 | Monitoring borehole south -western corner of CSP north of ash transfer house | 12 | 5.8 |
| B29 | -23.720467 | 27.617117 | Monitoring borehole south-eastern corner of ash stack | 13 | 5.9 |
| B30 | -23.719017 | 27.61355 | Monitoring borehole southern perimeter of ash stack | 11 | Destroyed |
| B31 | -23.723533 | 27.605833 | Monitoring borehole south of ash stack. Downstream of ash stack, B30 & B35 | 19 | 13.96 |
| B32 | -23.64485 | 27.5932 | Monitoring borehole west of sewage plant between plant and old natural ponds. | 24 | 20.28 |
| B33 | -23.644667 | 27.595167 | Monitoring borehole east of sewage plant next to dirt road. | 25 | 20.48 |
| B34 | -23.658083 | 27.60755 | Monitoring borehole north of CSY at access gate to irrigation dam P08 | 9 | 5.88 |
| B35 | -23.7145 | 27.602383 | Monitoring borehole south and downstream of ash stack. | 7 | Destroyed |
| B36 | -23.634117 | 27.648783 | Monitoring borehole north-east of power station area on private farm Zongezien 467. Borehole at farm house | ~ | No access |
| B37 | -23.634117 | 27.6449 | Monitoring borehole north -east of power station area on private farm Zongezien 467.Borehole at farm house | 33 | 29.98 |
| B37i | ~ | ~ | Monitoring borehole north - east of power station area on private farm Zongezien 467 | ~ | Location unknown |

| B38 | -23.6538 | 27.674017 | Monitoring borehole east of power station area on private farm peerboom 466.Borehole at farm house .Downstream from B17 & B18 | NA | Collapsed |
|-----|----------|-----------|--|----|---------------------|
| B40 | ~ | ~ | Monitoring borehole east of power station area on private farm peerboom 466. Downstream from B17&B18 | ~ | Location unknown |

The monitoring boreholes surrounding the Grootegeluk Mine are presented in Table 6.6. An extensive groundwater monitoring network surrounds the Mine with a large proportion located within the 8km buffer area. The water levels in these boreholes ranged from 3mbgl to 60.95mbgl. The variation in water levels is possibly due to the de-watering activities of the Grootegeluk open cast mining to the west of the 8km buffer.

| Borehole ID | Latitude | Longitude | Elevation (mamsl) | Water Level Elevation (mamsl) | Water Level (mbgl) |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|--|--------------------------|
| GHK17 | -23.66506 | 27.68348 | 845.67 | 816.65 | 29.02 |
| GHK26 | -23.6612 | 27.68553 | 843.7 | 818.2 | 25.5 |
| NN11 | -23.68831 | 27.58406 | 877.76 | 854.04 | 23.72 |
| NN12 | -23.69057 | 27.58162 | 880.36 | 830.4 | 49.96 |
| NN13 | -23.68834 | 27.58165 | 879.99 | 856.18 | 23.81 |
| OBS2 | -23.65586 | 27.54733 | 902.41 | 892.85 | 9.56 |
| TE66 | -23.67933 | 27.57422 | 883.51 | 862.03 | 21.48 |
| TE70 | -23.68608 | 27.5767 | 881.76 | 862.46 | 19.3 |
| TE88 | -23.68609 | 27.5693 | 885.6 | 875.54 | 10.06 |
| TE89 | -23.68256 | 27.57424 | 882.78 | 865.13 | 17.65 |
| TE90 | -23.68176 | 27.5423 | 894.67 | 841.32 | 53.35 |
| WB19B | -23.65576 | 27.5473 | 902.38 | 873.28 | 29.1 |
| WB25 | -23.66033 | 27.56523 | 895.3 | 890.57 | 4.73 |
| WB33 | -23.65708 | 27.54863 | 901.35 | 888.4 | 12.95 |
| WB34 | -23.65471 | 27.54765 | 904.19 | 881.24 | 22.95 |
| WB35 | -23.65532 | 27.54468 | 902.44 | 871.46 | 30.98 |
| WB36 | -23.65809 | 27.54053 | 901.7 | 883.36 | 18.34 |
| WB40 | -23.66874 | 27.56888 | 895.24 | 888.52 | 6.72 |
| WB42 | -23.66978 | 27.55489 | 893.58 | 883.53 | 10.05 |
| WB43 | -23.66533 | 27.55837 | 894 | 884.68 | 9.32 |
| WB45 | -23.6649 | 27.56437 | 895.01 | 889.64 | 5.37 |
| WB46 | -23.66846 | 27.5643 | 894.11 | 890.37 | 3.74 |
| WB47 | -23.65798 | 27.56088 | 896.72 | 891.91 | 4.81 |
| WB48 | -23.65475 | 27.56388 | 896.02 | 891.77 | 4.25 |
| WB49 | -23.65794 | 27.55955 | 896.78 | 889.73 | 7.05 |
| WB50 | -23.65078 | 27.56328 | 896.61 | 880.61 | 16 |
| WB51 | -23.6606 | 27.56676 | 895.39 | 885.07 | 10.32 |
| WB9 | -23.68162 | 27.53508 | 897.7 | 839.35 | 58.35 |
| WBR14P1 | -23.6452 | 27.54194 | 911.51 | 882.64 | 28.87 |
| WBR14P2 | -23.6452 | 27.54194 | 911.51 | 882.75 | 28.76 |
| WBR14P3 | -23.6452 | 27.54194 | 911.51 | 897.26 | 14.25 |
| WBR15 | -23.64467 | 27.55609 | 902.24 | 890.77 | 11.47 |
| WBR16 | -23.64011 | 27.54922 | 908.68 | 886.36 | 22.32 |
| WBR17 | -23.67195 | 27.54886 | 894.38 | 874.59 | 19.79 |

| WBR18 | -23.67015 | 27.55221 | 892.98 | 888.46 | 4.52 |
|---------|-----------|----------|--------|--------|-------|
| WBR2 | -23.65657 | 27.57637 | 897 | 888.6 | 8.4 |
| WBR22P2 | -23.68158 | 27.5668 | 886.65 | 854.55 | 32.1 |
| WBR24 | -23.63901 | 27.57888 | 887.27 | 875.92 | 11.35 |
| WBR26 | -23.66612 | 27.5617 | 894.67 | 889.5 | 5.17 |
| WBR28 | -23.64722 | 27.5516 | 905.54 | 888.83 | 16.71 |
| WBR29 | -23.66501 | 27.55661 | 894.9 | 889 | 5.9 |
| WBR3 | -23.63658 | 27.56375 | 893.17 | 890.17 | 3 |
| WBR30 | -23.66564 | 27.55663 | 894.73 | 888.93 | 5.8 |
| WBR31 | -23.66472 | 27.55734 | 894.88 | 888.97 | 5.91 |
| WBR32 | -23.64543 | 27.56684 | 893.6 | 888.2 | 5.4 |
| WBR36 | -23.67355 | 27.57018 | 892.82 | 887.06 | 5.76 |
| WBR37 | -23.70176 | 27.57775 | 895.23 | 881.03 | 14.2 |
| WBR37A | -23.70176 | 27.57786 | 895.27 | 881.9 | 13.37 |
| WBR38 | -23.65431 | 27.6018 | 873.6 | 860.25 | 13.35 |
| WBR39 | -23.67662 | 27.55924 | 891.02 | 886.26 | 4.76 |
| WBR4 | -23.64251 | 27.57335 | 890.44 | 887.56 | 2.88 |
| WBR5P1 | -23.63652 | 27.57322 | 886.57 | 884.23 | 2.34 |
| WBR6P1 | -23.64195 | 27.56813 | 896.33 | 896.78 | - |
| WBR6P2 | -23.64195 | 27.56813 | 896.33 | 889.59 | 6.74 |
| WBR7 | -23.6422 | 27.5931 | 886.94 | 863.95 | 22.99 |
| WBR8 | -23.62611 | 27.57597 | 879.55 | 867.67 | 11.88 |
| APL | -23.63539 | 27.57458 | - | - | - |
| FL1 | -23.65051 | 27.58611 | - | - | - |
| WBR39 | -23.67662 | 27.55924 | 891.02 | - | - |
| WB31 | -23.60821 | 27.57079 | 882.02 | - | - |

6.5.1 Groundwater Flow Directions

The water level data obtained from the Matimba monitoring programme and selected data from the Grootegeluk monitoring was used to contour the groundwater levels and determine the groundwater flow direction.

Figure 6.2 presents the general groundwater flow direction across and around the 8km site area. The groundwater flow direction is an easterly direction across the study area, towards the Sandloop River.

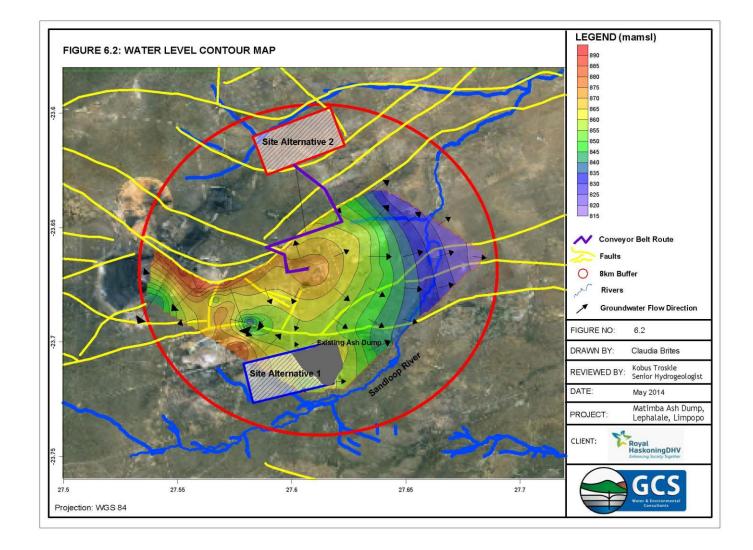


Figure 6.2: Groundwater Flow Direction

6.5.2 Bayesian Estimate

The elevations of the boreholes were plotted against the water level elevations in mamsl (metres above mean sea level), in order to determine if there is a correlation between the two variables which would indicate that the groundwater levels follow the topographical slope of the area. Figure 6.3 below, plots both the Grootegeluk Mine and Matimba Power Station monitoring borehole data set. This indicates a 55% correlation, which suggests a poor relationship between the groundwater levels and the topography. The poor correlation is due to the existing dewatering impacts at the Grootegeluk mine and elevated water levels due to seepage.

Figure 6.4 plots the Matimba borehole data set which indicates a 76% correlation. This suggests a better correlation of the elevation with the groundwater level and indicates that the cone of depression from the dewatering has not been extended to intersect the aquifer(s) in the immediate vicinity of the Matimba Power Station.

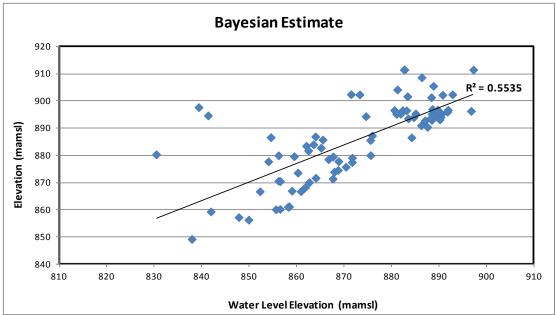


Figure 6.3: Linear relationship between topography and groundwater elevation - Grootegeluk Mine & Matimba boreholes

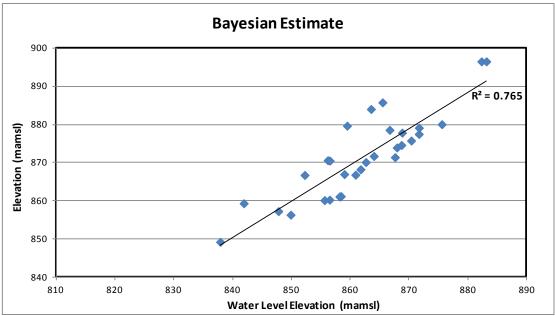


Figure 6.4: Linear relationship between topography and groundwater elevation -Matimba boreholes

6.6 Groundwater Chemistry

All functional boreholes in close proximity to the ash disposal facility were sampled as part of the monitoring conducted by GHT Consulting Scientists in May 2012.

6.7 Existing ash disposal facility

6.7.1 Groundwater Quality

Boreholes B12, B30 and B35 were destroyed/dry and therefore not sampled. Majority of the boreholes were classified as above the recommended limit when compared to the SABS South African National Standard: Drinking Water, SANS 241-1: 2011 limit.

The chemistry indicated several parameters which exceeded the limit in certain boreholes including electrical conductivity, sodium, chloride, sulphate, manganese and iron. The non-compliance of the water quality within the boreholes is potentially from the ash disposal facility (GHT Consulting Scientists, 2012).

Boreholes B29 and B31 are located downgradient of the ash disposal facility, with B29 located adjacent to the ash disposal facility and B31 further from the ash disposal facility. The chemistry indicated excessive concentrations of certain parameters. The EC values exceeded the SANS 241-1:2011 of 170mS/m, with values of 1374 and 1082mS/m in B29 and B31 respectively. The sodium concentration exceeded the SANS limit of 200mg/l with concentrations of 2081 and 2147mg/l in B29 and B31 respectively. The chloride concentrations exceeded the SANS limit of 300mg/l with concentrations of 4256 and 3657mg/l in B29 and B31 respectively. From the results it is evident that certain parameters are present in excessive concentrations directly downgradient of the ash disposal facility. Borehole B24, located further downgradient from B29, indicated high sulphate concentrations, however, more parameters were compliant in comparison to B29, located closer to the ash disposal facility.

Borehole B23 is located downgradient and adjacent to the ash disposal facility. The chemistry indicated high concentrations of indicator parameters (electrical conductivity, sodium, chloride and sulphate) (GHT Consulting Scientists, 2012). Boreholes B3 and B22 indicated compliance with the SANS standard for parameters analysed. B22 is located at quite a distance from the ash disposal facility and B3 is upgradient.

6.7.1.1 Electrical Conductivity

The Electrical Conductivity (EC) measurements as reported in the GHT Consulting Scientists for the first quarter of 2012 indicated elevated EC measurements. The contours indicate elevated EC measurements surrounding the existing ash disposal facility located within the southern portion of the 8km buffer, with boreholes B29 and B31, located downgradient of the ash disposal facility indicated elevated EC concentrations. Similarly, borehole B18, which is located east of the Power Station drain dams, monitoring the Power Station area, indicated elevated EC concentrations within this borehole.

6.7.1.2 Coal Stockyard

Majority of the boreholes in this area indicated elevated parameters, except for boreholes B13 and B15 which indicated suitable water quality which implies that the coal stockyard has not impacted on the water quality (GHT Consulting Scientists, 2012). Several parameters exceeded the limits in some of these boreholes, namely, sulphate, fluoride, sodium, magnesium and chloride.

The boreholes located within the rehabilitated waste site, indicated elevated sodium, chloride, iron and nitrate concentrations.

6.7.2 Power Station

The water quality within these boreholes were for the most part satisfactory. One borehole, B18 indicated elevated electrical conductivity, sodium, calcium, magnesium, chloride, sulphate and nitrate. Borehole B27, indicated elevated nitrate.

6.7.3 Groundwater Use

Groundwater abstraction occurs within the study area for the following purposes:

- Primarily stock or game watering;
- Domestic use;
- Agricultural use;

Reticulated (piped) water is supplied to the area, either via the municipality, Eskom, or Grootegeluk Coal Mine.

7 DETAILED FIELD INVESTIGATION

GCS conducted a detailed hydrogeological investigation for both site alternatives, namely Alternative 1 located adjacent to the existing ash disposal facility and Alternative 2 located on portions of farm Vooruit 449 LQ, Droogeheuvel 447LQ, Ganzepan 446 LQ and Appelvlakte 448 LQ.

7.1 Hydrocensus

A hydrocensus was conducted as part of the hydrogeological investigation whereby properties within a \pm 2km radius of both Alternative 1 and Alternative 2 were visited. During the visit, details including water use type, volumes, water levels and coordinates were obtained. The results of the hydrocensus for Alternative 1 are presented in Table 7.1 and Table 7.2 for Alternative 2.

The positions of the hydrocensus boreholes surrounding the two sites alternative are
presentedinFigure7.1and





Figure 7.2.

7.1.1 Site Alternative 1

Groundwater levels were measured in all boreholes which were accessible. In total 16 boreholes were identified surrounding site alternative 1 within a 2km radius according to requirements by the DWA. This includes the four boreholes drilled as part of this study. The boreholes are mostly used for domestic purposes as well as stock watering and the irrigation of gardens.

Many of the boreholes identified during the hydrocensus were Matimba monitoring boreholes. According to the reports reviewed as part of the Scoping phase, the boreholes were referred to with the prefix B, whereas during the actual field investigation, the boreholes were labelled as P. The boreholes referred to in Table 6.5 and Table 7.1 therefore refer to the same boreholes, but are however labelled differently.

In total 11 water levels were recorded in these boreholes. The water levels ranged from 5.63mbgl to 21.47mbgl.

The water levels of the Matimba monitoring boreholes recorded during the hydrocensus are very similar to the water levels recorded in Table 6.5 as recorded during the first quarter in 2012 by GHT Consulting Scientists.

| Table 7.1: Hydrocensus Data for Alternative 1 |
|---|
|---|

| BH name | Co-ordinates, WC | GS 84 Geographic | Depth (m) | Water level | Pump type | Daily volumes | Reservoir | Known Yield | Use |
|---------|------------------|------------------|-----------|---------------|-------------------------|------------------|---------------|----------------|---|
| | S | E | , | (mbgl) | | (l) | (l/s) | | |
| MA 01 | -23.71 | 27.58282 | 40 | 17.63 | GCS Pump installed | - | None | 0,71l/s | Monitoring |
| MA 02 | -23.7305 | 27.58542 | 40 | 15.45 | GCS Pump installed | - | None | 0,71l/s | Monitoring |
| MA 03 | -23.7213 | 27.61943 | 40 | Dry | Dry | - | - | - | Monitoring |
| MA 04 | -23.7213 | 27.61943 | 40 | Dry | Dry | - | - | - | Monitoring |
| GHT 01 | -23.7256 | 27.60345 | 35 | Dry | None - Monitoring BH | - | - | - | Monitoring |
| GHT 02 | -23.7269 | 27.59853 | 35 | 17.1 | None - Monitoring BH | - | - | - | Monitoring |
| P 12 | -23.6984 | 27.61783 | 15 | Dry/collapsed | None - Monitoring BH | - | - | - | Monitoring |
| P01 | -23.7012 | 27.6190 | 30 | 6.21 | None - Monitoring BH | - | - | - | Monitoring |
| P 03 | -23.6972 | 27.61782 | 40 | 14.26 | None - Monitoring BH | - | - | - | Monitoring |
| P 02 | -23.7041 | 27.60293 | 40 | 21.47 | None - Monitoring BH | - | - | - | Monitoring |
| P 31 | -23.7236 | 27.60577 | 30 | 14.06 | None - Monitoring BH | - | - | - | Monitoring |
| P29 | -23.7204 | 27.61705 | 30 | 5.63 | None - Monitoring BH | - | - | - | Monitoring |
| P 23 | -23.7143 | 27.6216 | 40 | 8.16 | None - Monitoring BH | - | - | - | Monitoring |
| P20 | -23.6973 | 27.62408 | 40 | 7.09 | None - Monitoring BH | - | - | - | Monitoring |
| P21 | -23.7015 | 27.6235 | 40 | 5.72 | None - Monitoring BH | - | - | - | |
| HP 01 | -23.6854 | 27.60393 | Unknown | Approx 7m | Submersible | 1000l/day | Cement dam | 1,5l/s | Garden irrigation & stock watering |

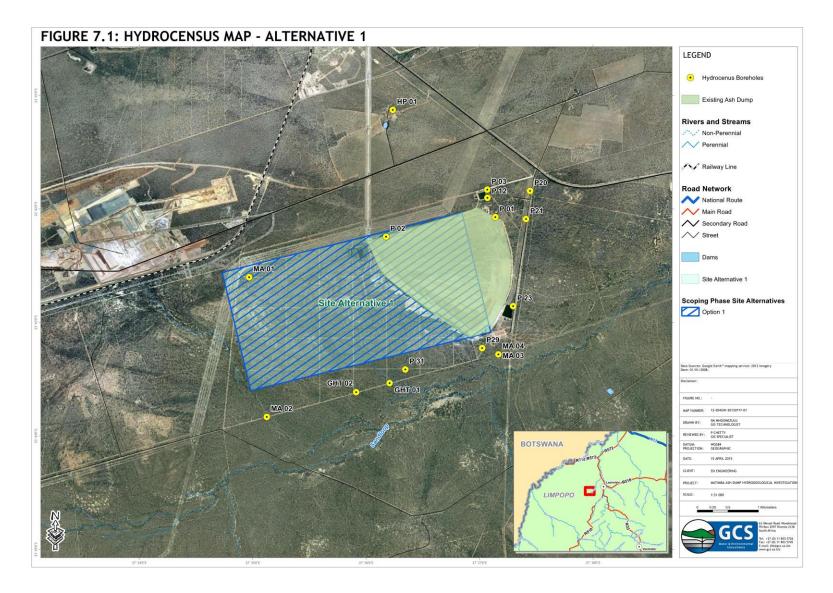


Figure 7.1: Localities of Hydrocensus Boreholes - Alternative 1

7.1.2 Site Alternative 2

Groundwater levels were measured in all boreholes which were accessible. In total 16 boreholes were identified surrounding site alternative 2 including the one borehole drilled for this Site Alternative.

The water levels ranged from 17mbgl to 23.94mbgl. The water use is mostly for domestic purposes as well as stock watering.

Table 7.2: Hydrocensus Data for Alternative 2

| Dilasmo | Co-ordinates, W | GS 84 Geographic | Death (m) | Water | Pump type | Daily | Reservoir | Known Yield | Use | |
|---------|-----------------|------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| BH name | S | E | Depth (m) | Depth (m) level (mbgl) | | volumes (l/day) | (l) | (l/s) | Use | |
| APV 02 | -23.6257 | 27.58165 | 100 | 17.75 | Submersible | once daily | 2 x 5000 jojo | 1.3 | Stock watering | |
| APV 01 | -23.6291 | 27.58563 | 65 | 17.74 | Submersible | filled 3xweek | 5000l jojo | Approx 0.3l/s | Domestic, irrigation of garden | |
| NGA 096 | -23.6166 | 27.56757 | 65 | - | Mono | Not in use | None | Approx 1-2l/s | | |
| WB 31 | -23.6082 | 27.57072 | Approx 80 | 23.94 | Submersible | 1000l/day | 2200l jojo | Approx 1.5l/s | Domestic & stock watering | |
| MA 05 | -23.6157 | 27.63042 | 40 | 22.87 | GCS Pump installed | - | None | 0.71l/s | - | |
| DHL 123 | -23.616 | 27.6355 | Unknown | - | Submersible | 4000l/day | 4 x 2200l jojo | 0.2l/s each | Domestic | |
| DHL 05 | -23.6154 | 27.6336 | Approx 80m | - | Submersible | 1000l/day | Waterhole | 0.1l/s | Game - Watering hole | |
| DHL 07 | -23.6157 | 27.62408 | Approx 80m | - | Submersible | 1000l/day | Waterhole | 0.1l/s | Game - Watering hole | |
| DHL 08 | -23.6265 | 27.61908 | Approx 80m | - | Submersible | 1000l/day | Cement dam | 0.1l/s | Domestic | |
| GPN 07 | -23.5851 | 27.60082 | Approx 65m | 19.11 | Windpump - Broken | - | Cement dam | - | Stock watering | |
| GPN 06 | -23.596 | 27.59937 | Approx 100m | - | Mono | 1000l/day | Cement dam | 0.1l/s | Stock watering | |
| GPN 01 | -23.5895 | 27.62602 | Unknown | - | Mono | 1000l/day | 2x2200l jojo | 0.1l/s | Stock watering | |
| GPN 05 | -23.597 | 27.63763 | 80 | 23.11 | GCS Pump installed | - | None | 0.71l/s | - | |
| GPN 04 | -23.5884 | 27.62388 | Approx 40m | 17 | Not equipped | - | - | - | - | |
| GPN 03 | -23.5881 | 27.62575 | Unknown | - | Mono | 1xweek | 2x2200l jojo | 0.1l/s | Domestic | |
| GPN 02 | -23.5901 | 27.62632 | 100m | 22.71 | Submersible | 1000l/day | Cattle crib | 0.1l/s | Stock watering | |



Figure 7.2: Localities of Hydrocensus Boreholes - Alternative 2

7.2 Geophysical Investigation

GCS conducted a geophysical investigation in order to determine the underlying geological structures and to investigate the presence of zones of preferential groundwater flow in the area. The geophysical investigation was also conducted in order to identify the most suitable location for the drilling of the monitoring boreholes. The magnetic method was used in order to determine the location of any structures or contacts between different lithologies.

The geophysical surveys were conducted on and off site. The magnetic geophysical surveys were conducted on site from the 11th to the 14th of June 2013 whereby a total of three magnetic geophysical traverses were completed in order to delineate the most favourable drilling targets. The results from the geophysical surveys were analysed in order to detect any anomalies that may be present. The data plotted is presented in Appendix B.

7.2.1 Alternative 1

Geophysical profiling of the site was limited due to the existence of the overhead power lines located to the north and east of the site. A total of three geophysical lines were conducted on Alternative 1:

- Line 1 was conducted in a west to east direction on the proposed site area.
- Line 2 was conducted in a south west to north east direction.
- Line 3 was conducted in a south to north direction.

The location of the traverses are shown on Figure 7.3. No targets were identified based on the data obtained from Line 1 & 3. A target was identified on Line 2 at a distance of 2.5km from the starting point in the south western corner. Initially the position of a downgradient borehole was planned for this location, however, during the site investigation, another groundwater consultant was conducting borehole drilling and also earmarked this position for drilling. Therefore GCS made the decision to move the borehole position to a different location. The four boreholes drilled on site included one 40 metre upgradient borehole (MA1), two 40 metre downgradient boreholes (MA2 & MA3) and one 15 metre downgradient borehole (MA4).

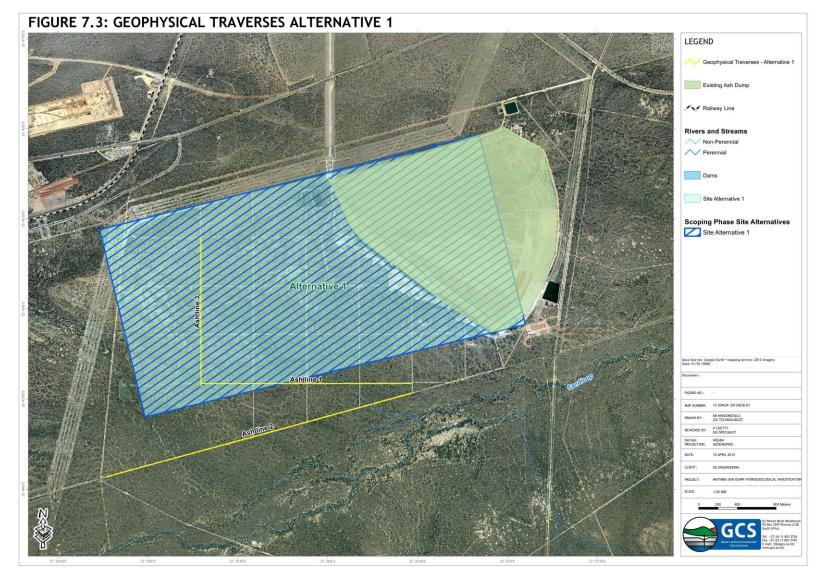


Figure 7.3: Geophysical Traverses Alternative 1

7.2.2 Alternative 2

A total of five geophysical lines were conducted on site Alternative 2.

- Ganzepan Line 1 & 3 and Droogeheuwel Line 1 were conducted in a west to east direction.
- Ganzepan Line 2 and Droogeheuwel Line 2 were conducted in a north west to south west direction.

The locations of the traverses have been plotted on Figure 7.4. No targets were identified based on the geophysical results.

Only one borehole was drilled for this site, which was located downgradient of the site. The borehole was drilled to a depth of 40 metres and was located on the farm Droogeheuwel. The remaining proposed upgradient and downgradient boreholes were not drilled for this site alternative as two boreholes were identified during the hydrocensus which were suitable to be utilized as monitoring boreholes. This included one borehole on the farm Ganzepan and the other borehole was located on farm Appelvlakte.



Figure 7.4: Geophysical Traverses Alternative 2

7.3 Borehole Installation

Ferreira Drilling was contracted to supply the drilling services for the selected boreholes. The drilling comprised air-rotary-percussion drilling to construct the boreholes. The final depths of the boreholes ranged from 15 to 40 metres. The borehole logs are presented in Appendix C.

Drilling was conducted from the 4th until the 7th of July 2013. The drill chips returned were logged at 1 metre intervals by the geologist on site. Water strikes, construction details, and blow yields (the volume of water per unit of time blown from the borehole during drilling) were recorded during the drilling programme. All boreholes were logged in terms of lithology and aquifer intersection. The distribution of the various casing types (i.e. slotted or solid) were determined on site by a GCS Hydrogeologist. The general construction specifications for standard monitoring boreholes are the following:

- 125mm OD PVC slotted casing;
- 125mm OD PVC solid casing;
- A PVC end cap;
- 2 to 5mm diameter silica gravel pack;
- A seal of concrete slurry to a depth of 1m below ground level;
- A concrete plinth; and
- A steel stand-pipe with a lockable steel cap.

The details of the boreholes for site Alternative 1 are recorded in Table 7.3 and Table 7.4 for site Alternative 2.

7.3.1 Site Alternative 1

In total, four boreholes were drilled surrounding Alternative 1. These include:

- One up-gradient borehole north west of the ash disposal facility, namely MA1. The borehole was drilled to a depth of 40 metres. MA1 was drilled on the proposed footprint of Alternative 1 as there was no alternative position other than drilling on the Medupi Power Station property. If Alternative 1 is the preferred site, borehole MA1 will be functional until the late depositional phases of the project as it is located on the western portion and deposition would initiate on the eastern boundary.
- Borehole MA2 was drilled as a downgradient borehole of the ash disposal facility. Water levels were recorded in MA1 and MA2 and ranged between 17.63 and 15.45mbgl.
- Boreholes MA3 and MA4 were also drilled down-gradient of the site. These two boreholes serve as a shallow and deep borehole monitoring pair as MA3 was drilled to 40 metres and MA4 was drilled to 15 metres. Both boreholes were drilled dry and no water level was recorded.

No major water strikes were encountered during drilling, only minor seepage was evident.

| Borehole | | Coordinates (WGS 84, Geographic) | | Depth of borehole | Collar Height | SWL | SWL |
|----------|-------------|-------------------------------------|---------|----------------------|------------------|--------|--------|
| ID | S | E | (mamsl) | (mbgl) | (m) | (mbch) | (mbgl) |
| MA1 | -23.710000° | 27.582817° | 893.40 | 40 | 0.4 | 18.03 | 17.63 |
| MA2 | -23.730517° | 27.585417° | 876.14 | 40 | 0.4 | 15.85 | 15.45 |
| MA3 | -23.721333° | 27.619433° | 864.15 | 40 | 0.4 | Dry | Dry |
| MA4 | -23.721317° | 27.619450° | 864.15 | 15 | 0.4 | Dry | Dry |

(SWL) static water level

(mbgl) metres below ground level (mbch) metres below collar height (mamsl) metres above mean sea level

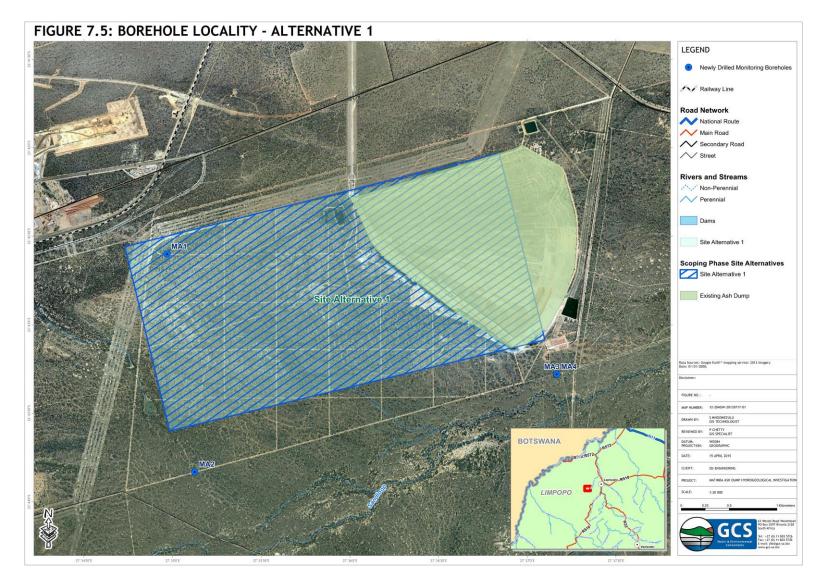


Figure 7.5: Borehole Locality Map - Alternative 1

7.3.2 Site Alternative 2

The drilling at site Alternative 2 included the installation of one borehole on the farm Droogeheuwel, namely MA5 which was drilled to a depth of 40 metres. This serves as a downgradient borehole should the ash disposal facility be developed on this site option. No further boreholes were drilled surrounding this option, based on the presence of existing boreholes which were included into the groundwater monitoring program.

Borehole APV02 is an existing borehole on the farm property Appelvlakte 448 LQ. A water level of 17.75mbgl was recorded and this borehole serves as a downgradient monitoring borehole.

Borehole GPN05 located upgradient of the site is located on the farm portion Ganzepan 446 LQ. A water level of 23.11mbgl was recorded in this borehole.

| Borehole | Coordinates (WGS 84, Geographic) | | Elevation | Depth of borehole | Collar Height | SWL | SWL | |
|----------|-------------------------------------|------------|-----------|----------------------|------------------|--------|--------|--|
| ID | S | E | (mamsl) | (mbgl) | (m) | (mbch) | (mbgl) | |
| MA5 | -23.615683° | 27.630417° | 855.52 | 40 | 0.3 | 23.17 | 22.87 | |
| APV02 | -23.625683° | 27.581650° | 879.65 | 100 | 0.5 | 18.15 | 17.75 | |
| GPN05 | -23.597000° | 27.637633° | 850.21 | 80 | 0.4 | 23.51 | 23.11 | |

Table 7.4: Boreholes Parameters - Alternative 2

(mbgl) metres below ground level

(mbch) metres below collar height

(mamsl) metres above mean sea level

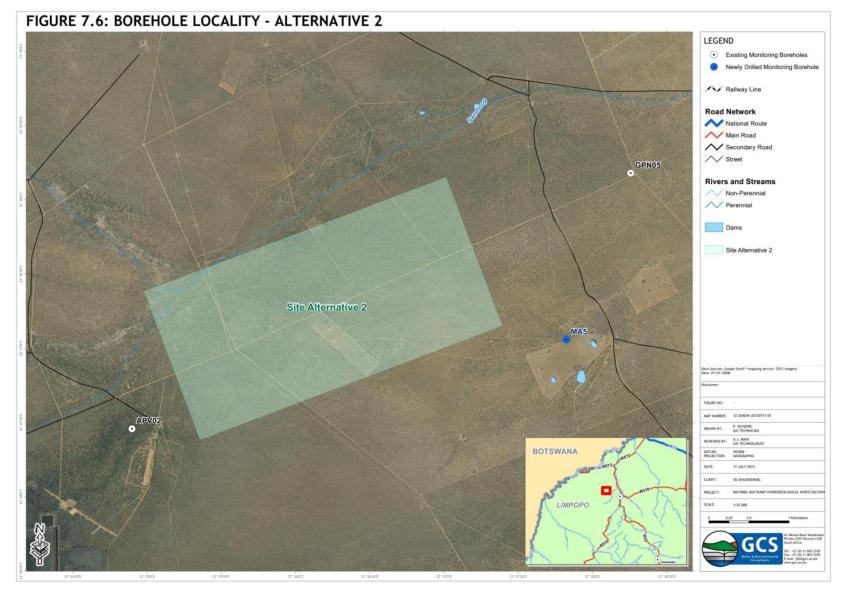


Figure 7.6: Borehole Locality Map - Alternative 2

7.4 Groundwater Levels & Flow Direction

The water levels collected during the hydrocensus and the borehole drilling on both sites were used to determine the groundwater levels for the site areas.

7.4.1 Alternative 1

The groundwater flow direction for site Alternative 1 is generally in an easterly direction (refer to Figure 7.7) towards the Sandloop River. The flow direction contours were based on water levels collected from 11 different boreholes surrounding the site area. The flow direction associated with the eastern portion of the current ash disposal area is somewhat different to the general easterly direction. This is most likely due to potential seepage occurring from the ash disposal facility resulting in shallower water levels immediately downgradient of the existing ash disposal facility.

7.4.2 Alternative 2

The groundwater flow direction for site Alternative 2 is in an easterly direction (Figure 7.8). The flow direction contours were based on water levels collected from eight different boreholes surrounding the site area.

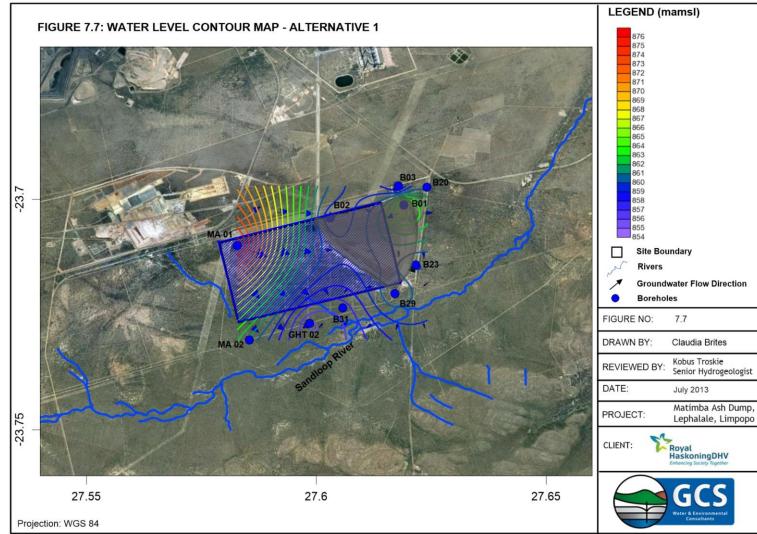


Figure 7.7: Water Level Flow Direction Map - Alternative 1

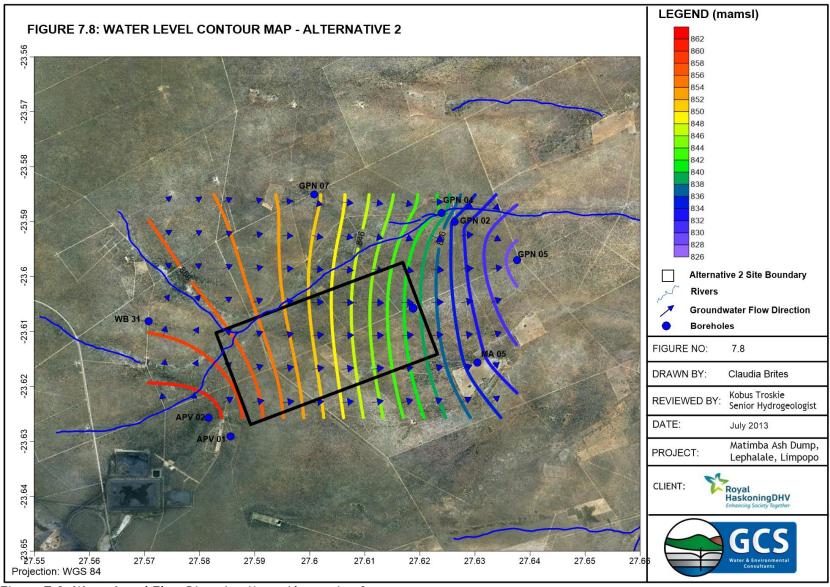


Figure 7.8: Water Level Flow Direction Map - Alternative 2

7.5 Aquifer Testing

Aquifer testing was carried out from the 6th to the 10th of July 2013. The aquifer testing comprised of short duration constant rate testing that was carried out on two newly drilled boreholes (MA1 & MA2) on site Alternative 1.

Aquifer testing was also carried out on the one newly drilled borehole (MA5) located at site Alternative 2 and the two existing monitoring boreholes on site Alternative 2 (APV02 & GPN05).

The short duration constant discharge test is used to determine the aquifer's response to stress (constant pumping) and to be able to calculate the aquifers hydraulic parameters i.e. transmissivity and storativity. Transmissivity is the rate at which water is transmitted through a unit width of an aquifer under a unit hydraulic gradient. Storativity is a measure of the volume of water stored and released in an aquifer. The testing also allows for the identification of impermeable or recharge boundaries. The test involved monitoring the drawdown of the water level in the borehole while the discharge is kept constant.

The recovery test provided an indication of the ability of a borehole and aquifer to recover from the stress of abstraction. This ability can again be analysed to provide information with regards to the hydraulic properties of the groundwater system. The duration of the tests varied, based on how fast the borehole was pumped dry after which recovery was measured up until 90%.

The results of the aquifer testing were interpreted in order to provide a better understanding of the aquifer hydraulic characteristics of the geological formations and the calculation of travel times of pollutants and the risk of contamination.

7.5.1 Site Alternative 1

The results of the aquifer testing for the boreholes associated with site Alternative 1 are presented in Table 7.5.

| Borehole ID | Borehole SWL (mach) | Borehole Depth (m) | Pump Installation (mach) | Test (min) | Recovery Test (min) | Test Rate (l/s) | % Recovery | Transmissivity Theis residual drawdown/recovery method (m ² /day) |
|----------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|--|
| MA1 | 17.42 | 40 | 38 | 2.5 | 360 | 0.7 | 74% | 0.04 |
| MA2 | 17.31 | 40 | 38 | 4 | 180 | 0.9 | 72% | 0.06 |

Table 7.5: Aquifer Test Results - Site Alternative 1

Results of the aquifer testing were interpreted by using the software Aqtesolv.

The aquifer test results are representative of a low yielding aquifer with transmissivity values ranging from 0.04 to 0.06 $\rm m^2/day.$

The analysis of the aquifer test data is presented in Appendix D and Appendix E.

7.5.2 Site Alternative 2

The results of the aquifer testing for the boreholes associated with site Alternative 2 are presented in Table 7.6.

| Borehole ID | Borehole SWL (mach) | Borehole Depth (m) | Pump Installation (mach) | Test (min) | Recovery Test (min) | Test Rate (l/s) | % Recovery | Transmissivity Theis residual drawdown/recovery method (m ² /day) |
|----------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|--|
| MA5 | 23.17 | 40 | 37 | 4 | 240 | 0.9 | 97 % | 0.15 |
| APV02 | 18.15 | 100 | 75 | 240 | 180 | 1.4 | 94% | 6.67 |
| GPN05 | 23.28 | 40 | 38 | 10 | 400 | 0.9 | 99 % | 0.1 |

Table 7.6: Aquifer Test Results - Site Alternative 2

The results indicate that boreholes MA5 and GPN05 were low yielding with short pumping periods and longer recovery periods. Borehole APV02 underwent a drawdown test of 240 minutes with a pumping rate of 1.4l/s.

The transmissivity of the aquifer unit was determined using Aqtesolv and is tabulated above. The transmissivity in the three boreholes ranged from 0.1 to 6.67 m^2/day . The analysis of the aquifer test data is presented in Appendix D and Appendix E.

7.6 Groundwater Sampling

Samples collected were submitted to M&L laboratory services a SANAS accredited laboratory based in Johannesburg, South Africa. Field observations for each sampling point, consisting of the following information, were recorded on field data sheets:

- Date of sampling;
- Coordinates of each borehole;
- Depth of water level;
- General characteristics of the water samples such as colour, turbidity and smell as well as visual observations of the sample site.

The field parameters measured in the site and hydrocensus boreholes of site Alternative 1 are presented below in Table 7.7 and include pH, temperature, EC and TDS.

Two newly drilled monitoring boreholes and 10 hydrocensus boreholes surrounding site Alternative 1 were sampled during the hydrocensus investigation.

| Borehole | рН | Temperature (°C) | EC (mS/cm) | TDS (ppm) |
|----------|------|---------------------|------------|-----------|
| MA 01 | 6.98 | 25.1 | 25.4 | 231 |
| MA 02 | 6.51 | 22.1 | 1870 | 4310 |
| MA 03 | | Dry | | |
| MA 04 | | Dry | | |
| P02 | 6.79 | 23.5 | 395 | 2680 |
| P29 | 6.21 | 21.8 | 1291 | 9110 |
| P01 | 6.02 | 22 | 114.1 | 829 |
| P21 | 6.59 | 19.1 | 825 | 390 |
| P23 | 7.02 | 22.3 | 5440 | 3820 |

Table 7.7: Field Parameters of Site & Hydrocensus Boreholes - Alternative 1

| P03 | 6.62 | 20.7 | 45.9 | 314 |
|--------|------|------|-------|------|
| P31 | 6.65 | 24.5 | 123.8 | 8650 |
| P20 | 6.53 | 21.8 | 79.9 | 371 |
| GHT 02 | 6.5 | 24.3 | 380 | 2840 |
| HP 01 | 7.51 | 22.4 | 244 | 1250 |

The field parameters measured in the site and hydrocensus boreholes of site Alternative 2 are presented below in Table 7.8 and include pH, temperature, EC and TDS.

One newly drilled monitoring borehole and six hydrocensus boreholes surrounding site Alternative 2 were sampled during the hydrocensus investigation.

Table 7.8: Field Parameters of Site & Hydrocensus Boreholes - Alternative 2

| Borehole | рН | Temperature (°C) | EC (mS/cm) | TDS (ppm) |
|----------|------|---------------------|---------------|-----------|
| MA 05 | 6.5 | 21.4 | 65.0 | 245 |
| APV 02 | 6.14 | 18.6 | 834 | 2710 |
| GPN05 | 6.41 | 21.7 | 71.5 | 524 |
| NGA 096 | | Inaccessible | | |
| DHL 123 | 6.46 | 25.6 | 57.3 | 276 |
| GPN 07 | 6.97 | 23.3 | 95.3 | 655 |
| APV 01 | 7.05 | 17 | 479 | 3330 |

All water samples collected underwent the analysis as stipulated in Table 7.9 below.

 Table 7.9: Constituents required for analysis

| pH Value | Nitrate as N |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Conductivity | Fluoride,F |
| Total Dissolved Solids | Nitrite as N |
| Calcium,Ca | Aluminium, Al |
| Magnesium, Mg | Manganese, Mn |
| Sodium,Na | Iron, Fe |
| Potassium,K | Zinc, Zn |
| Free and Saline Ammonia as NH4 | Lead, Pb |
| Total Alkalinity as CaCO ₃ | Copper, Cu |
| P Alk as CaCO3 | Total Chromium, Cr |
| Bicarbonate, HCO3 | Phosphate, PO_4 |
| Carbonate, CO ₃ | Cadmium, Cd |
| Chloride,Cl | Nickel, Ni |
| Sulfate,SO4 | Vanadium, V |
| Nitrate,NO ₃ | Arsenic |

The water qualities measured within all boreholes sampled were compared to the SANS (South African National Standard) 241-1:2011 water quality standards for drinking water as well as the target values of the South African Water Quality Guidelines for Domestic Water Use (SAWQG) as published by the Department of Water Affairs (DWA) which is used as a

guideline. The chemistry results for site Alternative 1 are presented in Table 7.10 and Table 7.11 for site Alternative 2. The laboratory certificates are presented in Appendix F.

Site Alternative 1 Monitoring Boreholes

MA1: This is a newly drilled borehole which was sited upgradient of the current and proposed ash disposal facility. The chemistry indicated that TDS (Total Dissolved Solids), chloride and iron exceeded the DWA drinking guidelines. Manganese exceeded the SANS standard. Overall the water quality is generally good in comparison with the existing downgradient monitoring boreholes.

MA2: This is a newly drilled borehole drilled south west of the current and proposed ash disposal facility. The chemistry results indicated several elevated constituents. This includes conductivity, TDS, chloride, fluoride, sulphate, calcium, potassium, sodium, manganese, magnesium and lead all which exceeded the SANS standards. The iron concentration exceeded the DWA guideline.

Site Alternative 1 Hydrocensus Boreholes

HP01: This is a hydrocensus borehole identified during the investigation used for domestic and stock watering purposes. The borehole is located north of the current ash disposal facility. The chemistry results indicated several elevated constituents: conductivity, TDS, chloride, fluoride, calcium, sodium and magnesium all exceeded the SANS standards. The sulphate and manganese concentrations exceeded the DWA guideline.

P02: This is a hydrocensus borehole identified during the investigation. P02 is a Matimba monitoring borehole located on the northern perimeter of the ash disposal facility. The chemistry results indicate several elevated constituents: conductivity, TDS, chloride, sulphate, calcium, sodium, manganese, magnesium and iron all exceeded the SANS standards. The ammonia and fluoride concentrations exceeded the DWA guideline.

P03: This is a hydrocensus borehole identified during the investigation. P03 is a Matimba monitoring borehole located on the north-eastern corner of the current ash disposal facility monitoring an ash water collecting dam. The quality of the water is good with only manganese exceeding the DWA guideline.

P01: This is a hydrocensus borehole identified during the investigation. P01 is a Matimba monitoring borehole located on the north-eastern corner of the ash disposal facility. The chemistry results indicated several elevated constituents: conductivity, TDS, sulphate, aluminium, calcium, manganese, magnesium and arsenic which all exceeded the SANS standards. The sodium concentration exceeded the DWA guideline. The pH is also very low with a value of 3.5 which does not comply with the SANS standard.

P20: This is a hydrocensus borehole identified during the investigation. P20 is a Matimba monitoring borehole located east of water return dams (P05) next to the fence and downstream of monitoring boreholes P05, P03, P12 (refer to Figure 6.1 for locality). The quality of the water is good with only fluoride exceeding the SANS limits and conductivity, chloride, sodium, manganese and iron exceeding the DWA guideline.

P21: This is a hydrocensus borehole identified during the investigation. P21 is a Matimba monitoring borehole located north-east of the ash stack next to the fence, downstream of ash stack, P05, P01, P03 & P12. The chemistry results indicated several elevated constituents. This includes elevated TDS, sulphate, calcium, manganese, magnesium and iron which all exceeded the SANS standards. The conductivity and sodium concentrations exceeded the DWA guideline.

P23: This is a hydrocensus borehole identified during the investigation. P23 is a Matimba monitoring borehole located on the eastern perimeter of ash disposal facility & north-eastern corner of the eastern ash water collecting dam (P06). The chemistry results indicated several elevated constituents: conductivity, TDS, chloride, sulphate, calcium, sodium, manganese and magnesium which all exceeded the SANS standards.

P29: This is a hydrocensus borehole identified during the investigation. P29 is a Matimba monitoring borehole located on the south-eastern corner, downgradient of the ash disposal facility. The chemistry results indicated several elevated constituents: elevated conductivity, TDS, chloride, calcium, potassium, sodium, manganese, magnesium and iron which all exceeded the SANS standards. The ammonia and fluoride concentrations exceeded the DWA guideline.

P31: This is a hydrocensus borehole identified during the investigation. P31 is a Matimba monitoring borehole located south and downgradient of the ash disposal facility and borehoels P30 & P35 (refer to Figure 6.1 for locality). The chemistry results indicated several elevated constituents. This includes elevated TDS, chloride, fluoride, calcium, potassium, sodium, manganese, magnesium and iron which all exceeded the SANS standards. The conductivity concentration exceeded the DWA guideline.

GHT02: This is a hydrocensus borehole identified during the investigation. This is a new monitoring borehole drilled by GHT consultants at the same time this investigation was conducted. The chemistry indicated elevated conductivity, TDS, chloride, fluoride, calcium, sodium, manganese and magnesium which all exceeded the SANS standards. The sulphate concentration exceeded the DWA guideline.

A pollution index determination is useful for selecting parameters which are reliable pollution indicators. A sampling point is selected which indicates the lowest elemental concentrations. In this case, borehole MA1 was chosen as this borehole as it is located upgradient of the existing ash disposal facility. The concentrations for all other boreholes are then divided by the concentrations of borehole MA1. The parameters which indicate consistent high ratios are considered to be reliable indicators of pollution.

Overall, the general trend of the boreholes indicated similar parameters which generally exceeded the drinking water limits. Most of these parameters indicated very high concentrations. These problematic parameters as identified through the pollution index include: conductivity, TDS; chloride; sulphate; calcium; sodium; manganese and magnesium. Most of the boreholes indicated poor water quality with these parameters in high concentrations. This was with the exception of boreholes MA1 (newly drilled upgradient), P03 and P20. The chemistry results of the remaining boreholes indicated the effect of the current ash disposal facility on the groundwater environment.

| | , | | | reholes | | lternat | | Hvo | Irocensu | s Boreho | les | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|------------|----------|------------|------------|------------|----------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| Parameter | DWA Drinking Water | SANS 241-1: 2011 | MA 01 | MA 02 | HP 01 | P02 | P03 | P01 | P20 | P21 | P23 | P29 | P31 | GHT 02 |
| Conductivity mS/m @ 25°C | <70 | <170 | 43.7 | 1768 | 225.4 | 369 | 41.1 | 221.3 | 72.1 | 156.4 | 492 | 1951 | 116.3 | 349 |
| pH at 25°C | 6-9 | 5-9.7 | 7.2 | 6.3 | 7.9 | 7.1 | 7.2 | 3.5 | 6.9 | 6.5 | 7.6 | 6.7 | 7.2 | 8.2 |
| Total Dissolved Solids | <450 | <1200 | 262 | 12392 | 1460 | 2732 | 246 | 2088 | 400 | 1280 | 4060 | 13176 | 7440 | 1936 |
| Ammonia as NH4 | 1 | NS | <0.10 | <0.10 | <0.10 | 6.3 | <0.10 | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.5 | <0.10 | 2.6 | 0.9 | <0.10 |
| Bicarbonate, HCO ₃ | NS | NS | 134 | 141 | 237 | 502 | 105 | 0 | 258 | 91 | 844 | 284 | 421 | 417 |
| Carbonate, CO ₃ | NS | NS | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Chloride, Cl | <100 | <300 | 61 | 6710 | 460 | 552 | 28 | 23 | 113 | 30 | 720 | 7718 | 3809 | 822 |
| Fluoride, F | 1 | 1.5 | 0.7 | 1.7 | 4.7 | 1.3 | 0.7 | <0.100 | 4 | <0.100 | 1.8 | 1.5 | 1.7 | 5.3 |
| Hydroxide alkalinity as OH- | NS | NS | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Nitrate as N | <6 | <11 | <0.1 | 0.6 | <0.1 | <0.1 | 0.4 | 4.7 | <0.1 | <0.1 | <0.1 | <0.1 | <0.1 | 0.1 |
| Nitrate, NO₃ | NS | NS | <0.1 | 2.5 | <0.1 | <0.1 | 1.7 | 21 | <0.1 | <0.1 | <0.1 | <0.1 | <0.1 | 0.5 |
| Nitrite as N | NS | 0.9 | <0.10 | <0.10 | <0.10 | <0.10 | <0.10 | <0.10 | <0.10 | <0.10 | <0.10 | <0.10 | <0.10 | <0.10 |
| Phosphate as PO4 | NS | NS | <0.12 | <0.12 | <0.12 | <0.12 | <0.12 | <0.12 | <0.12 | <0.12 | 0.49 | <0.12 | <0.12 | <0.12 |
| Sulfate, SO₄ | <200 | <500 | 13.7 | 809 | 326 | 813 | 71 | 1377 | 4.5 | 803 | 1248 | 118 | 314 | 212 |
| Total Alkalinity as CaCO ₃ | NS | NS | 110 | 116 | 194 | 412 | 86 | <1.000 | 212 | 75 | 692 | 233 | 345 | 342 |
| Aluminium as Al | 0.15 | 0.3 | 1.4 | < 0.003 | 0.02 | < 0.003 | 0.004 | 31 | 0.09 | 0.004 | < 0.003 | < 0.003 | < 0.003 | 0.04 |
| Calcium hardness | NS | NS | 18.2 | 1439 | 205 | 410 | 47 | 529 | 43 | 357 | 867 | 1389 | 510 | 110 |
| Calcium, Ca | <32 | NS | 7.3 | 576 | 82 | 164 | 18.7 | 212 | 17.4 | 143 | 347 | 556 | 204 | 44 |
| Potassium, K | <50 | NS | 8.6 | 118 | 17.1 | 40 | 7.3 | 49 | 10.1 | 28 | 33 | 104 | 63 | 24 |
| Sodium,Na | <100 | <200 | 76 | 2931 | 379 | 542 | 57 | 160 | 117 | 100 | 671 | 3298 | 2098 | 697 |
| Manganese, Mn | <0.05 | 0.5 | 0.28 | 8.9 | 0.24 | 1.3 | 0.32 | 2.1 | 0.49 | 2.8 | 0.7 | 2.8 | 2.6 | 0.32 |
| Magnesium hardness | NS | NS | 35 | 2260 | 152 | 568 | 32 | 317 | 82 | 333 | 782 | 2202 | 942 | 173 |
| Magnesium, Mg (mg/l) | <30 | NS | 8.6 | 549 | 37 | 138 | 7.8 | 77 | 19.9 | 81 | 190 | 535 | 229 | 42 |
| Iron, Fe | <0.1 | 2 | 0.78 | 0.24 | 0.02 | 4.4 | 0.03 | 0.09 | 0.36 | 51 | 0.08 | 8.7 | 0.27 | 0.03 |
| Zinc as Zn | 3 | 5 | 0.008 | 0.03 | 0.04 | 0.006 | 0.006 | 0.04 | 0.005 | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.03 | 0.01 | 0.006 |
| Lead, Pb | <0.01 | 0.01 | 0.009 | 0.02 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 |
| Copper as Cu | 1 | 2 | 0.02 | 0.08 | 0.03 | 0.06 | 0.01 | 0.07 | 0.02 | 0.04 | 0.07 | 0.07 | 0.07 | 0.03 |
| Arsenic as As | 0.01 | 0.01 | <0.001 | <0.001 | 0.009 | <0.001 | <0.001 | 0.04 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 |
| Vanadium as V | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.01 | 0.1 | 0.04 | 0.08 | 0.01 | 0.06 | 0.02 | 0.07 | 0.09 | 0.1 | 0.09 | 0.04 |
| Chromium as Cr | NS | 0.05 | 0.005 | 0.007 | 0.004 | 0.007 | 0.003 | 0.05 | 0.004 | 0.005 | 0.007 | 0.006 | 0.007 | 0.004 |
| Cadmium as Cd | NS | 0.003 | 0.001 | 0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | 0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 |
| Sum of Anions meq/I | NS | NS | 4.24 | 208.513 | 23.883 | 40.793 | 4.05 | 29.682 | 7.727 | 19.068 | 60.208 | 224.839 | 120.934 | 34.714 |
| Sum of Cations meq/I | NS | NS | 4.594 | 204.452 | 24.068 | 44.166 | 4.226 | 25.157 | 7.848 | 18.883 | 63.031 | 217.909 | 121.931 | 36.574 |
| % Error | NS | NS | 4.007 | -0.983 | 0.386 | 3.97 | 2.127 | 1.665 | 0.777 | -0.487 | 2.291 | -1.565 | 0.411 | 2.609 |
| Chemical Balance | NS | NS | ln | ln | ln | ln | ln | In | ln | ln | ln | ln | ln | ln |
| | | Values in r | ed indica | ate conce | ntration e | xceeding | g the moi | re stringe | ent standa | ard | | | | |
| | | Values in g | reen ind | icate con | centratio | n exceed | ing the le | ess string | jent stnd | ard | | | | |

| Table 7.10: Chemistry | Analysis of the Boreholes Sampled - Site Alternative 1 |
|-----------------------|--|
|-----------------------|--|

Site Alternative 2 Monitoring Boreholes

GPN 05: This is an existing production borehole which was used as a monitoring borehole, which is located downgradient of the proposed ash disposal facility at site Alternative 2. The quality of the water is good with the TDS, chloride and iron concentrations exceeding the DWA guideline. Manganese exceeded the SANS limits.

APV02: This is an existing production borehole which was used as a monitoring borehole, which is located upgradient of the proposed ash disposal facility at site alternative 2. The water quality indicated concentrations exceeding of conductivity, TDS, chloride, sulphate, calcium, sodium, magnesium and iron all exceeded the SANS standards.

MA5: This is a newly drilled borehole located downgradient of the proposed ash disposal facility. The chemical analysis indicated conductivity, TDS, chloride, sodium and manganese, concentrations exceeded the DWA limits. Aluminium and iron exceeded the SANS limits.

Site Alternative 2 Hydrocensus Boreholes

APV01: This is a hydrocensus borehole identified during the investigation. The chemical analysis indicated conductivity, TDS, nitrate as N, sulphate, calcium, sodium and magnesium concentrations exceeded the SANS limits. Fluoride exceeded the DWA limits.

NGA090: This is a hydrocensus borehole identified during the investigation. The quality of the water is good with only iron exceeding the DWA limits.

GPN07: This is a hydrocensus borehole identified during the investigation. The chemical analysis indicated conductivity, TDS, ammonia, chloride, sodium and manganese concentrations exceeded the DWA limits.

DHL123: This is a hydrocensus borehole identified during the investigation. The quality of the water is good with only fluoride and sodium exceeding the DWA limits.

A comparison in the groundwater chemistry is also made between the boreholes surrounding site Alternative 1 and site Alternative 2. There is a clear distinction between the results. Although several boreholes associated with site Alternative 2 indicated elevated concentrations of parameters mentioned earlier which appear to be problematic, it is clear that the concentrations in general are much lower than those associated with boreholes surrounding site Alternative 1.

| | Site Monitoring Boreholes Hydrocensus Boreholes | | | nitoring Bo | | | ydrocensu | s Borehol | es |
|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------|-------------|-------------|--------|---------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Parameter | DWA Drinking Water | SANS 241-1: 2011 | GPN 05 | APV 02 | MA5 | APV 01 | NGA 090 | GPN 07 | DHL 123 |
| Conductivity mS/m @ 25°C | <70 | <170 | 65.4 | 484 | 79.5 | 453 | 40.2 | 92.5 | 53.3 |
| pH at 25°C | 6-9 | 5-9.7 | 6.3 | 7.3 | 7.4 | 7.6 | 7.3 | 7.1 | 8.1 |
| Total Dissolved Solids | <450 | <1200 | 482 | 3762 | 598 | 3244 | 246 | 618 | 316 |
| Ammonia as NH4 | 1 | NS | <0.10 | <0.10 | <0.10 | <0.10 | <0.10 | 1.2 | <0.10 |
| Bicarbonate, HCO ₃ | NS | NS | 21 | 311 | 89 | 313 | 65 | 113 | 230 |
| Carbonate, CO ₃ | NS | NS | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Chloride, Cl | <100 | <300 | 169 | 997 | 179 | 1019 | 78 | 207 | 40 |
| Fluoride, F | 1 | 1.5 | 0.4 | 0.8 | 0.1 | 1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.2 |
| Hydroxide alkalinity as OH- | NS | NS | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Nitrate as N | <6 | <11 | 1.1 | 3.2 | 4.4 | 15.4 | 1.9 | <0.1 | 4.7 |
| Nitrate, NO ₃ | NS | NS | 4.8 | 14.3 | 19.5 | 68 | 8.6 | 0.2 | 21 |
| Nitrite as N | NS | 0.9 | <0.10 | <0.10 | <0.10 | <0.10 | <0.10 | <0.10 | <0.10 |
| Phosphate as PO4 | NS | NS | <0.12 | <0.12 | <0.12 | <0.12 | <0.12 | <0.12 | 0.37 |
| Sulfate, SO ₄ | <200 | <500 | 0.4 | 932 | 3.2 | 879 | 36 | <0.2 | 7.6 |
| Total Alkalinity as CaCO ₃ | NS | NS | 17 | 255 | 73 | 257 | 53 | 93 | 189 |
| Aluminium as Al | 0.15 | 0.3 | < 0.003 | <0.003 | 10.9 | < 0.003 | 0.06 | < 0.003 | 0.01 |
| Calcium hardness | NS | NS | 24 | 944 | 28 | 839 | 57 | 46 | 10 |
| Calcium, Ca | <32 | NS | 9.5 | 378 | 11.1 | 336 | 23 | 18.5 | 4 |
| Potassium, K | <50 | NS | 5.2 | 28 | 6.3 | 28 | 5.7 | 9.4 | 6.3 |
| Sodium, Na | <100 | <200 | 100 | 502 | 142 | 500 | 45 | 136 | 118 |
| Manganese, Mn | <0.05 | 0.5 | 0.13 | 0.005 | 0.07 | 0.004 | 0.002 | 0.2 | 0.001 |
| Magnesium hardness | NS | NS | 21 | 379 | 32 | 667 | 40 | 18.9 | 11.5 |
| Magnesium, Mg (mg/l) | <30 | NS | 5.2 | 92 | 7.8 | 162 | 9.6 | 4.6 | 2.8 |
| Iron, Fe | <0.1 | 2 | 0.36 | 0.003 | 5.5 | 0.04 | 0.22 | 0.006 | 0.02 |
| Zinc as Zn | 3 | 5 | < 0.005 | 0.04 | 0.01 | 0.04 | 0.02 | 0.008 | 0.005 |
| Lead, Pb | <0.01 | 0.01 | 0.004 | <0.001 | 0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | < 0.001 | <0.001 |
| Copper as Cu | 1 | 2 | 0.006 | 0.05 | 0.01 | 0.07 | 0.01 | 0.007 | 0.004 |
| Arsenic as As | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.004 | <0.001 | <0.001 | 0.001 | 0.007 | 0.003 | <0.001 |
| Vanadium as V | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.008 | 0.06 | 0.03 | 0.09 | 0.01 | 0.007 | 0.01 |
| Chromium as Cr | NS | 0.05 | 0.003 | 0.005 | 0.02 | 0.006 | 0.004 | 0.003 | 0.004 |
| Cadmium as Cd | NS | 0.003 | <0.001 | 0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 | 0.001 | <0.001 | <0.001 |
| Sum of Anions meq/I | NS | NS | 5.212 | 52.887 | 6.893 | 53.321 | 4.152 | 7.692 | 5.412 |
| Sum of Cations meq/I | NS | NS | 5.376 | 48.988 | 7.528 | 52.599 | 4.04 | 7.437 | 5.739 |
| % Error | NS | NS | 1.549 | -3.827 | 4.403 | -0.682 | -1.367 | -1.686 | 2.932 |
| Chemical Balance | NS | NS | In | In | In | In | In | In | In |
| Values in red indicate concentr | ation exceedir | ng the more str | ingent sta | ndard | | | | | |
| Values in green indicate conce | ntration excee | ding the less s | tringent st | andard | | | | | |

Table 7.11: Chemistry Analysis of the Boreholes Sampled - Site Alternative 2

8 ASH STORAGE FACILITY LEACHATE

Drawing on research that has been done in South Africa on the impacts of ash from coalfired power stations on specifically groundwater the following conclusions can be made. Numerous mitigation measures, as discussed in Section 11, and best environmental practises are available for implementation:

- The concentration of metals in the coal type determines the concentration of metals in the ash and therefore the leachate.
- Studies on South African sites show contamination of soils and groundwater directly under the ash disposal facility, with limited plume development and movement at well selected sites.
- Shallower water tables will develop as a mound under the disposal site, driving the groundwater flow in the direction of streams or other discharge points.
- Over the long term life of the ash disposal facility, the pH tends to decrease to around 7 and the mobilization of metals becomes problematic with low pH levels.
- Acid leaching will take place from the coal stockpiles (if not mitigated), increasing the overall potential for groundwater contamination.

| Power Station | Wet/ Dry | Elements of concern from site monitoring | Geology | Status |
|--|-------------|---|--|-------------------------------|
| Tutuka | Dry | Na, Cl, Ca and SO₄ | The site falls within the Carboniferous to early Jurassic aged Karoo Basin. Sediments here fall within the Permo- Triassic aged Northern facies of the Ecca Series | In use |
| Duvha | Wet | Salinity, SO₄, Na, Mg, Al, B, As, Cr, Fe, Ni, Se and Zn | Karoo environment consisting of sandstone, siltstone, mudstone and shale. | In use |
| Hendrina | Wet | SO4 | Karoo Supergroup, comprising of the Ecca Group and Dwyka Formation. | In use |
| Kragbron (Taaibos and Highveld) | Wet | SO₄ | Underlain by the Karoo Super sedimentary rocks of the Ecca and Beaufort groups | 20 years old not in use |
| Matimba | Dry | Na, Ca, Mg, K, Cl, SO₄, Fe, Mn and B. | Coal occurs in both Vryheid and Grootegeluk formation of the Karoo Supergroup | In use |
| Majuba | Wet | Na, SO_4 , F and B | Built on Ecca and Beaufort sedimentary formation of the Karoo Supergroup | In use |

Table 8.1: Major elements found in groundwater due to leaching from different ash disposal sites in South Africa (Adapted from M. Kolosa (2012)

8.1 Matimba Ash Disposal Facility Leachate Results

Laboratory test results carried out on representative samples of the Ash by Jeffares & Green (Pty) Ltd. The samples were collected in February 2013 and underwent the following analysis:

Acid rain leach (ARL) procedure (ARLP) extraction followed by:

- Semi-quantitative 33 element ICP MS (Inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry) scan
- Cations and anions including Cr(VI), Ca, Na, K, Mg, SO4, Cl, F, NH₄, NO3 and pH

• The only Contaminant of Concern (CoC) that exceeded the Acceptable Risk Level was hexavalent chromium (CrVI) but all other potential CoCs had a concentration lower than the respective ARL.

Aqua regia digestion followed by:

- Semi-quantitative 33 element ICP scan
- These results show elevated total concentrations of Ba in all the samples of ash, exceeding the TCT0 threshold level (total concentration thresholds for particular contaminants in a waste), while the total concentrations of all other potential CoCs were within acceptable levels.

Deionised water (1:20) extraction followed by:

- Semi-quantitative 33 element ICP scan
- $\circ~$ Analysed for cations and anions including Cr(VI), Ca, Na, K, Mg, SO₄, Cl, F, NH₄, NO₃ and pH
- The soluble Chromium (Cr) and Boron (B) concentrations in all three ash samples exceeded the LCT0 threshold
- The CrVI concentration in two of the ash samples exceeded the LCT0 threshold
- $\circ\,$ Leachable Molybdenum (Mo) concentration in the ash sampled from the new stockpile 1 exceeded the LCT0 threshold.

Based on the leachable concentrations, mitigation in the form of lining the ash disposal facility is required in order to prevent or minimize groundwater contamination.

9 POTENTIAL IMPACT OF CONVEYER BELT

9.1 Background

Conveyor belts are normally used in mine-mouth power plants to bring coal from the mining area to the storage or usage area. Conveyor belts can be used for coal transport in hilly terrain where roads are relatively inaccessible. Conveyors have the advantage of being relatively maintenance free but have the disadvantage of location inflexibility, making a truck haul still necessary. The only adverse environmental impacts of conveyor belts for coal transport are coal dust losses during loading, unloading, or transport.

An EIA/EMP report was compiled in 2010 (Savannah Environmental) to address the impact of infrastructure development (including a conveyer belt) between the Matimba power station and the Medupi power station. During this study the following conclusions were made:

• There are no unique ecosystems, habitats for plant and animal life, wetlands, or conservation and eco-tourism activities that will be impacted by the mine developments.

• Due to the location of the coal silo (at Medupi) and the coal supply conveyer within existing mining areas, it is not expected that construction or operation will have a significant impact on aesthetics, groundwater, geohydrology, air quality or noise within the current mining areas.

The Matimba power station area displays a very similar environment to the Medupi station, therefore very little impact is expected from the construction and operation of the Matimba conveyer belt.

9.2 Matimba Coal Mine conveyer belt

The proposed Matimba Coal mine conveyer belt will transport coal from the mine area to an ash disposal location. The conveyer belt route alternative one will follow the farm boundary between Nelsonskop and Zongezien.

No monitoring boreholes from Grootegeluk Mine or boreholes from the NGA and GRIP databases are in immediate vicinity of the proposed route (Figure 7.2).

10 RISK RATING OF PROPOSED SITES AND CONVEYER BELT

A preliminary risk rating was applied and the sites were ranked to determine which site was the most suitable in terms of having the least impact on the groundwater environment. This is tabulated in Table 10.1, Table 10.2, and Table 10.4. Additionally, the risk associated with the conveyor belt has been tabulated in Table 10.3.

The risk rating takes into consideration the following:

- Geological structures (lineaments, intrusions and faults);
- Groundwater levels;
- Non-perennial and perennial drainage lines;

- The proximity of production boreholes relative to each of the sites; and
- Existing water quality.

Table 10.1: Risks Associated with the Alternative 1

Alternative 1: The site is located adjacent to the existing ash disposal facility, south of the Matimba Power Station

Geology: Alternative 1 is underlain by the Mogalakwena Formation of the Waterberg Group. The Formation is comprised of coarse grained purplish brown sandstone.

Hydrology and Hydrogeology: Non-perennial drainage lines are located within the 1km buffer. Sixteen boreholes are located within a 2km radius of this option. These boreholes were identified during the hydrocensus and are used mostly for monitoring purposes and one borehole is used for stock watering and irrigation.

Impacts: The production borehole used for stock watering and irrigation purposes is considered a sensitive receptor and must therefore be protected from any contamination. The non-perennial Sandloop river is also considered a sensitive receptor. The impacts of the existing ash disposal facility are already evident.

Rating: Medium

Table 10.2: Risks Associated with the Alternative 2

Alternative 2: The site is located north of the Matimba Power Station on portions of the farms Vooruit 449 LQ, Droogeheuvel 447LQ, Ganzepan 446 LQ and Appelvlakte 448 LQ.

Geology: Karoo Supergroup - Clarens Formation consists of fine grained cream coloured sandstone.

Hydrology and Hydrogeology: Non-perennial drainage lines are located within the 1km buffer. Sixteen boreholes are located within a 2km radius of this option. These boreholes were identified during the hydrocensus and are used mostly for domestic purposes as well as stock watering and irrigation.

Impacts: The production boreholes used for domestic purposes are considered sensitive receptors. An un-named non-perennial river is located north of the site.

Rating: High

Table 10.3: Risks Associated with the Conveyer Belt Route

Conveyor Belt: The conveyer belt route will follow the farm boundary between Nelsonskop and Zongezien in a northerly direction towards ash disposal facility alternative two.

Geology: The belt starts at the facility on a coarse grained purplish brown sandstone and as it traverses to the north it crosses the Clarens Formation, consisting of fine grained cream coloured sandstone. The conveyer belt route will traverse two faults (one the Daarby fault and another just north of the Daarby fault).

Hydrology and Hydrogeology: Non-perennial drainage lines are located within the 1km buffer. No production boreholes are located in immediate vicinity of conveyer belt route.

Impacts: The faults on the property have been identified as sensitive areas, but due to the minimal expected environmental impacts typically associated with conveyor belts, the impact is low.

Rating: Low

10.1 Risk Rating Summary

The hydrological, hydrogeological and geological risks were taken into consideration for each site. The different aspects identified per site were given a rating from being a fatal flaw to very good (ideal) as presented in Table 10.4 below. The groundwater levels and use of boreholes retrieved from the hydrocensus were plotted and interpolated by geographical information system (GIS) and incorporated into the risk assessment. This risk rating is specifically based on the hydrogeological, geological and site specific components of each site.

| Table | 10.4: | Risk | Rating | Summary |
|-------|-------|------|--------|---------|
|-------|-------|------|--------|---------|

| Site selection elements | <u>Site Suitab</u> | ility Rating | <u>Weighting</u> <u>Factor</u> |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | Site Alternative 1 | Site Alternative 2 | |
| Groundwater levels - Hydrocensus data | 4 | 3 | 0.5 |
| Presence of intrusive lithologies, linear Structures | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| Topography gradient | 3 | 3 | 0.5 |
| Downgradient from Dams/Rivers | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| Non-perennial drainage lines | 3 | 4 | 0.5 |
| Perennial drainage lines | N/A | N/A | 1 |
| Proximity of production boreholes | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| Cumulative impacts | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| Subtotal | 19 | 15 | |
| Ranking | 1 | 2 | |
| | | | |
| | LEGEND | | |
| | fatal flaw | 1 | |
| | poor | 2 | |
| | average | 3 | |
| | good | 4 | |
| | very good (ideal) | 5 | \square |

Based on the risk rating above, Alternative 1 is ranked as the more suitable option according the following criteria:

- Further distance from geological structures in comparison to Alternative 2;
- Less production boreholes and groundwater users within a 2km radius of the site;
- The effect of the current ash disposal facility is already evident in the groundwater quality.

11 SIGNIFICANCE RATING SCALES

The potential environmental impacts associated with the project are evaluated according to its nature, extent, duration, intensity, probability and significance of the impacts, whereby:

- *Nature*: A brief written statement of the environmental aspect being impacted upon by a particular action or activity.
- **Extent**: The area over which the impact will be expressed. Typically, the severity and significance of an impact have different scales and as such bracketing ranges are often required. This is often useful during the detailed assessment phase of a project in terms of further defining the determined significance or intensity of an impact. For example, high at a local scale, but low at a regional scale;
- *Duration*: Indicates what the lifetime of the impact will be;
- Intensity: Describes whether an impact is destructive or benign;
- *Probability*: Describes the likelihood of an impact actually occurring; and
- **Cumulative:** In relation to an activity, means the impact of an activity that in itself may not be significant but may become significant when added to the existing and potential impacts eventuating from similar or diverse activities or undertakings in the area.

Table 11.1 provides the criteria upon which the rating of the impacts are determined.

| CRITERIA | DESCRIPTION | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| EXTENT | National (4) The whole of South Africa | Regional (3) Provincial and parts of neighbouring provinces | Local (2) Within a radius of 2 km of the construction site | Site (1) Within the construction site | | | | |
| DURATION | Permanent (4) Mitigation either by man or natural process will not occur in such a way or in such a time span that the impact can be considered transient | Long-term (3) The impact will continue or last for the entire operational life of the development, but will be mitigated by direct human action or by natural processes thereafter. The only class of impact which will be non-transitory | Medium-term (2) The impact will last for the period of the construction phase, where after it will be entirely negated | Short-term (1) The impact will either disappear with mitigation or will be mitigated through natural process in a span shorter than the construction phase | | | | |
| INTENSITY | Very High (4) Natural, cultural and social functions and processes are altered to extent that they permanently cease | High (3) Natural, cultural and social functions and processes are altered to extent that they temporarily cease | Moderate (2) Affected environment is altered, but natural, cultural and social functions and processes continue albeit in a modified way | Low (1) Impact affects the environment in such a way that natural, cultural and social functions and processes are not affected | | | | |
| PROBABILTY OF OCCURANCE | Definite (4) Impact will certainly occur | Highly Probable (3) Most likely that the impact will occur | Possible (2) The impact may occur | Improbable (1) Likelihood of the impact materialising is very low | | | | |

Table 11.1: Criteria to be used for the Rating of Impacts

Table 11.2 details the significance rating scale which is used to total the total number of points scored for each impact and indicates the level of significance of the impact.

| Tuble 11.2. The Sight | |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Low impact (4 - 6 points) | A low impact has no permanent impact of significance. Mitigation measures are feasible and are readily instituted as part of a standing design, construction or operating procedure. |
| Medium impact (7 - 9 points) | Mitigation is possible with additional design and construction inputs. |
| High impact (10 - 12 points) | The design of the site may be affected. Mitigation and possible remediation are needed during the construction and/or operational phases. The effects of the impact may affect the broader environment. |
| Very high impact (13 - 16 points) | Permanent and important impacts. The design of the site may be affected. Intensive remediation is needed during construction and/or operational phases. Any activity which results in a "very high impact" is likely to be a fatal flaw. |
| Status | Denotes the perceived effect of the impact on the affected area. |
| Positive (+) | Beneficial impact. |
| Negative (-) | Deleterious or adverse impact. |
| Neutral (/) | Impact is neither beneficial nor adverse. |

11.1 Impact Assessment

The ash disposal facility may have the following impacts on the groundwater environment as discussed in detail below.

11.1.1 Construction Phase - Hydrocarbon contamination

During the construction phase, hydrocarbon contamination is possible due to the presence of heavy machinery on site. Spillages may occur which may impact both the soil and groundwater environment. The impacts are costly and difficult to clean up, however, only small amounts envisaged.

Table 11.3 tabulates the impact of hydrocarbon contamination on site and the impacts on the soil and groundwater environment. The associated ratings and scores of the impact after mitigation measures are in place are detailed below. The score of 9 points results in a medium impact.

Table 11.3: Groundwater Impact Table Description during Construction Phases - No Mitigation Measures

| | Unmitigated | | | | | |
|--|-------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|--|--|
| Impact description | Extent | Duration | Intensity | Probability | | |
| Hydrocarbon contamination associated with heavy machinery on site | Local | Long Term | Moderate | Possible | | |

| | | 1 | | |
|-------|---|---|---|---|
| Score | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 |

Table 11.4 tabulates the impact of hydrocarbon contamination on site and the impacts on the soil and groundwater environment with mitigation measures in place. The mitigation measures would include secondary containment for all fuel stored on site and implementing the proposed groundwater monitoring programme as detailed in Section 12. This would allow for the early detection of water quality deterioration associated with the site. Accurate oil records must be kept (purchased, disposal, and recycled). Ensure clean up protocols are in place and followed. The score of 9 points results in a medium impact.

| Table 11.4: Groundwater Impact 7 | Table Description | during Construction | Phases - With |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Mitigation Measures | | | |

| | Mitigated | | | | |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|--|
| Impact description | Extent | Duration | Intensity | Probability | |
| Hydrocarbon contamination associated with heavy machinery on site | Local | Long Term | Moderate | Possible | |
| Score | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | |

11.1.2 Operational and Closure Phases - Poor quality artificial recharge from the ash disposal facility

The major potential impacts of ash disposal on groundwater resources are generally associated with changes in the pH of the water, the increase in salt content and the concentration of the potentially toxic trace elements. The most important factor in determining the resulting pollution impact of the ash is the way in which it is disposed.

During dry disposal, the ash still has a moisture content of up to 15% as this water is added to suppress dust during transport and deposition.

Fly ash mainly consists of small, glassy hollow particles and contains all the natural elements, and in comparison with the parent material is enriched in trace elements. Studies show that trace elements are usually concentrated in the smaller ash particles. The ash is usually enriched in arsenic, boron, calcium, molybdenum, sulphur, selenium and strontium.

By understanding the chemistry of the ash, a better insight into its reactions with various other elements can be reached. The pH of the ash is normally elevated due to the abundance of calcium oxide. Calcium oxide usually constitutes about 8 % of the ash and is of great importance in the forming of the pozzolanic layer. As stated above, another factor that plays an important role is the presence of water in the ash. If there is enough water to isolate the ash from the atmosphere (as is the case with wet disposal) the ash will not be able to react with the oxygen in the air and the pozzolanic layer will not be able to form.

Should the ash be wetted and dried cyclically, the ash will have time to react with the atmosphere. This will cause a reaction between calcium oxide and the carbon dioxide that will then lead to the crystallisation of calcium carbonate (limestone). Another reaction that occurs is that between calcium and sulphate that results in the crystallisation of gypsum.

These two minerals (calcium carbonate and gypsum) form the so-called pozzolanic layer, which is a layer of very low permeability. The layer can be expected to occur in the upper

0.5 m of the ash disposal infrastructure. It is thus evident that the formation of the pozzolanic layer is mostly confined where wetting and drying of ash occurs, during deposition in the wet process and near the surface on a dry ash pile.

Leaching from these ash disposal sites may occur. Leaching experiments show that the element composition of the leachate does not necessarily reflect that of the whole ash sample proportionally. This suggests that for some elements a correlation of leachate quality to whole ash properties cannot be made. This is because the rate at which these elements will leach from the ash is dependent on:

- The form in which the element is present within the ash;
- The location of the element within the ash matrix; and
- Whether the element has been absorbed on to the ash particle surface.

Parts of the ash spheres are chemically stable in the environment and are resistant to weathering due to the alumino silicate matrix. Any element present in this matrix will be less readily available for leaching. However, elements absorbed onto the surface of the ash spheres will be more readily leached. Un-combusted mineral material may account for the presence of high concentrations of certain elements in the whole ash analysis. Leachate generated from these ashes may however, not reflect the high concentrations because the extraneous material associated with the ash are not in a form that is susceptible to leaching.

Water contained in the ash material during deposition can leach constituents from the ash disposal facility and transport it to the surrounding environment. Additional water that is recharged from rainfall will supplement the interstitial water and contribute to the leaching of elements. The water that migrates through the facility can either seep out along the edge of the ash storage facility and enter the surrounding environment as surface water, or migrate vertically to the bottom of the disposal facility and enter the underlying soil from where it can recharge and contaminate the aquifers.

The quality of the water seeping from the ash disposal facility is determined by performing leach and element enrichment testing. This includes a distilled water leachate test and acid-base accounting tests to determine the acid-neutralising and acid-generating capacity of the ash from which the net neutralising potential is calculated. The volume of water that will seep from the ash storage facility in the long term will be affected by the recharge from rainfall.

Table 11.5 tabulates the impact of poor quality artificial recharge from the ash disposal facility and the associated ratings and scores of the impact before mitigation measures are in place. The same impact applies to operational and closure phases.

Table 11.5: Groundwater Impact Table Description during Operation and Closure Phases - No Mitigation Measures Unmitigated

| | Unmitigated | | | | |
|--|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|--|
| Impact description | Extent | Duration | Intensity | Probability | |
| Poor quality artificial recharge from the ash disposal facility | Local | Long Term | High | Highly Probable | |
| Score | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | |

The score of 11 points results in a high impact.

Table 11.6 tabulates the impact of poor quality artificial recharge from the ash disposal facility and the associated ratings and scores of the impact after mitigation measures are in place.

Table 11.6: Groundwater Impact Table Description during Operation and Closure Phases - With Mitigation Measures

| | Mitigated | | | | |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|--|
| Impact description | Extent | Duration | Intensity | Probability | |
| Poor quality artificial recharge from the ash disposal facility | Local | Long Term | Moderate | Possible | |
| Score | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | |

The mitigation measures would include lining the ash disposal facility. This would reduce the impact on the groundwater environment as it inhibits the seepage of poor quality water into the aquifer. Mitigation measures would also include implementing the proposed groundwater monitoring programme as detailed in Section 12. This would allow for the early detection of water quality deterioration associated with the site. The score of 8 points results in a medium impact.

11.1.3 Operation Phase - Conveyor Belt Risks

During the operational phase, the loss of ash on the conveyor belt during the transportation from the power station to the ash disposal facility may have a detrimental effect on the soil and groundwater environment. In the event that this occurs, poor quality leachate may occur as a result of ash being deposited along the conveyor route.

Table 11.7 tabulates the impact of loss of ash during transportation on the conveyor belt and the impacts on the soil and groundwater environment. The associated ratings and scores of the impact after mitigation measures are in place are detailed below. The score of 8 points results in a medium impact.

Table 11.7: Groundwater Impact Table Description during Operational Phase - No Mitigation Measures

| | Unmitigated | | | | | |
|--|-------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|--|--|
| Impact description | Extent | Duration | Intensity | Probability | | |
| Loss of ash during transportation on the conveyor belt | Site | Long Term | Moderate | Possible | | |
| Score | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | | |

Table 11.8 tabulates the impact of the loss of ash during transportation on the conveyor belt and the associated ratings and scores of the impact after mitigation measures are in place.

Table 11.8: Groundwater Impact Table Description during Operational Phase - With Mitigation Measures

| | Mitigated | | | | |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------------|--|
| Impact description | Extent | Duration | Intensity | Probability | |
| Loss of ash during transportation on the conveyor belt | Site | Long Term | Moderate | Possible | |
| Score | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | |

The mitigation measures would include regular inspections along the conveyor belt route along sensitive areas mapped (fault areas) in order to visibly identify any areas where ash has been deposited on the soil. The ash must then be removed and transported to the ash disposal facility.

11.2 Risk areas related to conveyer belt

In the 2013 GCS report (Hydrogeological Desktop Study: Continuous Ash Disposal Facility for the Matimba Power Station) sensitive areas were identified for the placement of the ash disposal facility. The map derived from the investigation is shown in Figure 8.1.

The following components were then identified as sensitive areas for the placement of the ash disposal facility:

- Faults or lineaments;
- Production boreholes as indicated by the NGA and GRIP borehole database;
- A buffer area of 100 metres from the rivers within the 8km buffer.

The conveyer belt route will traverse 2 faults (one the Daarby fault and another just north of the Daarby fault). However, the only adverse environmental impacts of conveyor belts for coal transport are coal dust losses during loading, unloading, or transport. Therefore the risk is classified as low.

12 PROPOSED GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

A Groundwater Management Plan is required to ensure that the ash disposal facility does not impact negatively on groundwater levels and quality to unacceptable levels. To ensure that the groundwater environment is protected, monitoring of water quality and levels is required on an on-going basis. The recommended monitoring includes groundwater level and groundwater quality monitoring as well as the visual inspection of the boreholes, as outlined below.

Both sites, namely, Alternative 1 and Alternative 2 have sufficient amounts of monitoring boreholes surrounding the site, located both upgradient and downgradient. It is imperative that these boreholes are monitored on a regular basis.

For site Alternative 1, there are monitoring boreholes which are located on the footprint of the site. It is important that if Alternative 1 is selected as the site for the ash disposal facility that any borehole located on the site footprint is backfilled using a cement - bentonite slurry so as to prevent direct migration of potentially poor quality water into the aquifers.

The following boreholes are currently being monitored by GHT Consulting: P01, P03, P02, P31, P29, P23 and P20. Boreholes GHT 01 and GHT 02 are newly drilled boreholes by GHT Consulting. MA 01 and MA 02 are newly drilled boreholes by GCS. Borehole HP 01 is a production borehole used for garden irrigation & stock watering. All these boreholes should be included in the proposed monitoring plan for site Alternative 1. Boreholes MA1 and HP01 can be monitored bi-annually whereas the remainder of boreholes should be monitored quarterly as indicated in Table 12.1.

Boreholes APV 02, APV 01, WB 31, MA 05, DHL 123, DHL 05, DHL 07, DHL 08, GPN 07, GPN 06, GPN 01, GPN 05, GPN 04, GPN 03, GPN 02 are all boreholes located around the Alternative 2 site. Boreholes APV02, GPN05 and MA05 which were included in this investigation should be monitored on a quarterly basis. Additionally, boreholes NGA090, GPN07 and DHL08 located at a further distance from the proposed site should be monitored on a quarterly basis as indicated in Table 12.2.

A large data set is currently in place for Alternative 1 as groundwater monitoring is already in place. Therefore all new data collected from the existing boreholes must be compared to the existing data to identify any trends in the groundwater levels and chemistry over time. Long-term groundwater monitoring at similar ash disposal facilities have indicated varying degrees of groundwater quality deterioration.

It is recommended that the following parameters must be recorded: pH, EC, Na, K, Ca, Mg, K, NH4-N, Cl, SO4, F, NO3-N, N, PO4, TDS, Total Alkalinity, bicarbonate, carbonate, Al, Mn, Fe, Zn, Pb, Cu, Cr, Cr (VI), B, Mo, Cd and Ni;

Typically groundwater monitored within boreholes adjacent to ash disposal facilities indicates a rise in the salt content of the groundwater due to seepage from surface sources and also because of the dissolution of salt from the previously unsaturated zones. The increase in salinity is, therefore, a combination of artificial recharge from poor quality (saline) surface water sources and the mobilisation of salts in the exposed zones in the boreholes.

The rate of salts leaching into the subsurface depends on the ash disposal facility (wet versus dry), liners, soil /geology and depth to water level. Typically very slow migration of salts and metals are expected if the site is well selected and managed.

Water levels are in general are expected to rise due to the availability of water on the site and increase in recharge from both the clean water and dirty water systems. This will cause a flow gradient away from the site, even in slight upgradient direction of groundwater flow.

If the monitoring data indicates the need for corrective action, the magnitude of the impact must be assessed by an appropriately qualified and experienced specialist and the necessary measures put forward based on the magnitude of the impact.

| Borehole ID | Co-ordinates, WGS 84 Geographic | | Frequency of | Current | Analysis |
|-------------|------------------------------------|----------|-----------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| | S | E | Monitoring | Borehole Use | |
| MA1 | -23.71 | 27.58282 | Bi-annual | GCS Monitoring borehole | As per Table 8.9 |
| MA2 | -23.7305 | 27.58542 | Quarterly | GCS Monitoring borehole | As per Table 8.9 |
| HP 01 | -23.6854 | 27.60393 | Bi-annual | Production borehole | As per Table 8.9 |
| P01 | -23.7012 | 27.6190 | Quarterly | GHT Monitoring | As per Table 8.9 |
| P03 | -23.6972 | 27.61782 | Quarterly | GHT Monitoring | As per Table 8.9 |
| P31 | -23.7236 | 27.60577 | Quarterly | GHT Monitoring borehole | As per Table 8.9 |
| P29 | -23.7204 | 27.61705 | Quarterly | GHT Monitoring borehole | As per Table 8.9 |

Table 12.1: Monitoring Schedule for Alternative 1

| P23 | -23.7143 | 27.6216 | Quarterly | GHT Monitoring borehole | As per Table 8.9 |
|-----|----------|----------|-----------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| P20 | -23.6973 | 27.62408 | Quarterly | GHT Monitoring borehole | As per Table 8.9 |

Table 12.2: Monitoring Schedule for Alternative 2

| Borehole ID | Co-ordinates, WGS 84 Geographic | | Frequency of | Current Borehole | Analysis | |
|-------------|------------------------------------|----------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------|--|
| | S | S E | | Use | | |
| APV02 | -23.6257 | 27.58165 | Bi-annual | Production borehole | As per Table 8.9 | |
| GPN05 | -23.597 | 27.63763 | Quarterly | Production borehole | As per Table 8.9 | |
| MA05 | -23.6157 | 27.63042 | Bi-annual | Production borehole | As per Table 8.9 | |
| NGA090 | -23.6166 | 27.56757 | Quarterly | Production borehole | As per Table 8.9 | |
| GPN07 | -23.5851 | 27.60082 | Quarterly | Production borehole | As per Table 8.9 | |
| DHL08 | -23.6265 | 27.61908 | Quarterly | Production borehole | As per Table 8.9 | |

13 CONCLUSIONS

GCS undertook a hydrogeological desktop study for the proposed continuous ash disposal facility for the Matimba Power Station, which will form part of the EIA (Environmental Impact Assessment) and Waste Management Licensing (WML) process.

The study aims to identify the best suitable locality for the ash disposal facility.

GCS assessed all available geological and hydrogeological data as part of the hydrogeological investigation within an 8km radius of the Matimba Power Station. All existing groundwater data obtained from previous GCS projects, data provided by the client as well as government data was reviewed and included in the assessment.

Two sites alternatives were considered during the EIA Phase, namely Alternative 1 located south of the Matimba Power Station on farm Zwartwater 507LQ and Alternative 2 located north of the Matimba Power Station located on portions of farms Vooruit 449 LQ, Droogeheuvel 447LQ, Ganzepan 446 LQ and Appelvlakte 448 LQ.

13.1 Alternative 1

A detailed hydrocensus was conducted as part of the hydrogeological investigation whereby properties within a 2km radius of Alternative 1 were visited. During the visit, details including water use type, volumes, water levels and coordinates were obtained.

Majority of the boreholes identified surrounding Alternative 1 during the hydrocensus were Matimba monitoring boreholes. In total 11 water levels were recorded in these boreholes. The water levels ranged from 5.63mbgl to 21.47mbgl. The water use is mostly for domestic purposes as well as stock watering.

The geophysical investigation did not yield results and therefore monitoring boreholes were installed according to the positions required, which were upgradient and downgradient of the proposed sites.

In total, four boreholes were drilled surrounding Alternative 1. MA1 was drilled upgradient and MA2, MA3 and MA4 were drilled downgradient with depths which ranged from 15m to 40m.

The groundwater flow direction for site Alternative 1 is generally in an easterly direction towards the Sandloop River. The flow direction contours were based on water levels collected from 10 boreholes. The flow direction associated with the eastern portion of the current ash disposal area is somewhat different to the general easterly direction as described earlier. This is most likely due to potential seepage occurring from the ash disposal facility resulting in shallower water levels immediately downgradient of the ash disposal facility.

The short duration constant discharge test was performed to determine the aquifer's response to stress (constant pumping) and to be able to calculate the aquifers hydraulic parameters. Aquifer testing was conducted on MA1 & MA2, which indicated relatively low transmissivities which ranged from 0.04 to 0.06 m²/day.

A review of the chemistry of the Matimba Power Station monitoring boreholes sampled, indicated a general trend with similar parameters which generally exceeded the drinking water limits. Most of these parameters indicated very high concentrations. These problematic parameters as identified through the pollution index include the following: Conductivity, TDS; chloride; sulphate; calcium; sodium; manganese and magnesium.

Majority of the boreholes indicated poor water quality with these parameters in high concentrations. This was with the exception of the newly drilled upgradient borehole MA1, P03 and P20. The chemistry results of the remaining boreholes indicated the effect of the existing ash disposal facility on the groundwater environment.

Based on the risk rating of the site, Alternative 1 is favoured over Alternative 2 according to the following criteria:

- Groundwater levels Slightly deeper than Alternative 2;
- Presence of intrusive lithologies Further distance to intrusive lithologies in comparison to Alternative 2;
- Proximity of production boreholes Only 1 production borehole was identified in the 2km radius of the site compared to the 13 hydrocensus boreholes in use surrounding Alternative 2.
- Existing water quality The risk rating of Alternative 1 is reduced by placing the ash disposal facility adjacent to the existing ash disposal facility as the water quality has already been compromised due to the presence of the ash disposal facility.

The following boreholes are currently being monitored by GHT Consulting: P01, P03, P02, P31, P29, P23 and P20. Boreholes GHT 01 and GHT 02 are newly drilled boreholes by GHT Consulting. MA 01 and MA 02 are newly drilled boreholes by GCS. Borehole HP 01 is a production borehole used for garden irrigation & stock watering. All these boreholes should be included in the proposed monitoring plan for site Alternative 1.

13.2 Alternative 2

A detailed hydrocensus was conducted as part of the hydrogeological investigation whereby properties within a 2km radius of Alternative 2 were visited. During the visit, details including water use type, volumes, water levels and coordinates were obtained.

In total 16 boreholes were identified surrounding Alternative 2 including the boreholes installed for this project. The water levels ranged from 17mbgl to 23.94mbgl. The water use is mostly for domestic purposes as well as stock watering.

The geophysical investigation did not yield results and therefore monitoring boreholes were installed according to the positions required, which were upgradient and downgradient of the proposed sites.

The drilling at site Alternative 2 included the installation of one downgradient borehole on the farm Droogeheuwel, namely MA5 which was drilled to a depth of 40 metres. No further boreholes were drilled surrounding this option, based on the presence of existing boreholes which were used as monitoring boreholes, namely GPN05 and APV02.

The groundwater flow direction for site Alternative 2 is in an easterly direction. The flow direction contours were based on water levels collected from eight different boreholes surrounding the site area.

The short duration constant discharge test was performed to determine the aquifer's response to stress (constant pumping) and to be able to calculate the aquifers hydraulic parameters. Aquifer testing was conducted on GPN05, APV02 and MA5, which indicated transmissivities which ranged from 0.1 to 6.67 m²/day.

A comparison in the groundwater chemistry was made between the boreholes surrounding site Alternative 1 and site Alternative 2. There is a clear distinction between the results. Although several boreholes associated with site Alternative 2 indicated elevated concentrations of parameters mentioned earlier which appear to be problematic, it is clear

that the concentrations in general are much lower than those associated with boreholes surrounding site Alternative 1.

Boreholes APV02, GPN05 and MA05 which were included in this investigation should be monitored on a quarterly basis. Additionally, boreholes NGA090, GPN07 and DHL08 located at a further distance from the proposed site should be monitored on a quarterly basis.

13.3 Conveyer belt

During the sensitivity mapping process, the following components were identified as sensitive areas; faults or lineaments and production boreholes. The conveyer belt does not traverse/intersect any production boreholes but does traverse the Daarby fault.

The conveyer belt route will traverse two faults (one the Daarby fault and another just north of the Daarby fault). However, the only adverse environmental impacts of conveyor belts for coal transport are coal dust losses during loading, unloading, or transport. Therefore the risk is associated with this is considered minimal.

14 REFERENCES

GRDM, Groundwater Resource Directed Measures, GRDM Training Manual, 2010.

GHT Consulting Scientists, 2012. Matimba Power Station, Routine Monitoring Phase 61, First Quarter 2012, Final Report. Report number: RVN630.1/1321.

GCS (2008): Proposed 200/400/800 Mw Coal-Fired Power Station and Additional Black Start Generation Facility at Walvis Bay, Namibia - Site Selection Geology, Hydrogeology, Soil & Hydrology (08-198).

Kolosa, M. (2012) Investigation of salt leach potential of Tutuka dry ash dump. MSc in progress. University of the Western Cape. Bellville

Jeffares & Green (2013). Waste Classification of Ash Disposed at the Existing Ash Disposal Facilities, at the Matimba Power Station Ash Disposal Facility, Lephalale, Limpopo Province.

| Borehole ID | Latitude | Longitude | Water Level (mbgl) |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------|
| WB38 | -23.66411 | 27.55528 | 8.96 |
| ETSPE60 | -23.66701 | 27.52157 | 18.36 |
| GHK17 | -23.66506 | 27.68348 | 29.02 |
| GHK26 | -23.6612 | 27.68553 | 25.5 |
| GK37 | -23.67963 | 27.51541 | 54.59 |
| GK61 | -23.68398 | 27.53257 | 40.55 |
| GK71 | -23.68642 | 27.51302 | 77.3 |
| GK72 | -23.68407 | 27.513 | 76.45 |
| GK74 | -23.67954 | 27.51298 | 63.88 |
| GK75 | -23.67724 | 27.51296 | 69.53 |
| GK78 | -23.67052 | 27.51295 | 60.84 |
| GK79 | -23.66831 | 27.51299 | 80.25 |
| GK85 | -23.68634 | 27.50564 | 62.64 |
| GK87 | -23.68633 | 27.50074 | 57.3 |
| GK89 | -23.6818 | 27.52034 | 63.05 |
| GK91 | -23.68177 | 27.5007 | 42.5 |
| GK92 | -23.6773 | 27.50068 | 34.5 |
| GK93 | -23.67277 | 27.5007 | 53.25 |
| GK94 | -23.68634 | 27.51054 | 81.1 |
| GK95 | -23.67276 | 27.51009 | 58.98 |
| HT26 | -23.68623 | 27.53256 | 41.69 |
| HT27 | -23.68625 | 27.53014 | 57.68 |
| HT32 | -23.68853 | 27.52529 | 72.58 |
| HT33 | -23.68627 | 27.52526 | 55.52 |
| HT40 | -23.69086 | 27.50566 | 63.3 |
| HT41 | -23.69536 | 27.50568 | 58.88 |
| HT44 | -23.69299 | 27.51545 | 61.62 |
| HT46 | -23.69309 | 27.51058 | 81.53 |
| HT47 | -23.6931 | 27.50568 | 74.62 |
| LT11 | -23.66058 | 27.51292 | 55.23 |
| LT13 | -23.66375 | 27.51046 | 58.62 |
| LT14 | -23.65923 | 27.51044 | 55.43 |
| LT15 | -23.66376 | 27.50556 | 55.07 |
| LT16 | -23.66831 | 27.50069 | 57.98 |
| LT17 | -23.66601 | 27.50802 | 60.95 |
| LT9 | -23.66597 | 27.51293 | 61.96 |
| NN11 | -23.68831 | 27.58406 | 23.72 |
| NN12 | -23.69057 | 27.58162 | 49.96 |
| NN13 | -23.68834 | 27.58165 | 23.81 |
| OBS10 | -23.64781 | 27.52289 | 9.22 |
| OBS2 | -23.65586 | 27.54733 | 9.56 |
| OBS3 | -23.6476 | 27.52172 | 11.1 |
| TE66 | -23.67933 | 27.57422 | 21.48 |
| TE70 | -23.68608 | 27.5767 | 19.3 |
| TE88 | -23.68609 | 27.5693 | 10.06 |

APPENDIX A GROOTEGELUK MONITORING BOREHOLE DATA

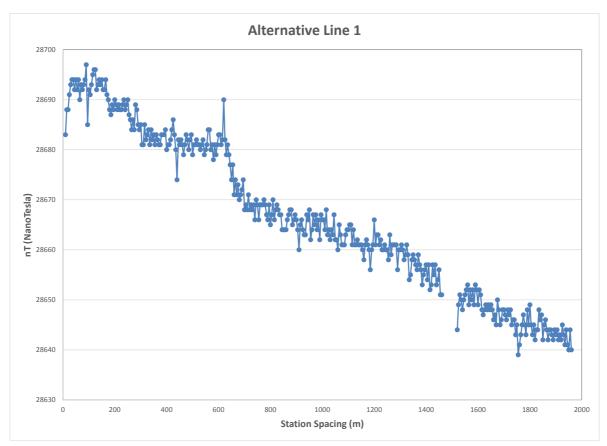
| TE89 | -23.68256 | 27.57424 | 17.65 |
|---------|-----------|----------------------|-------|
| TE90 | -23.68176 | 27.5423 | 53.35 |
| WB19B | -23.65576 | 27.5473 | 29.1 |
| WB25 | -23.66033 | 27.56523 | 4.73 |
| WB33 | -23.65708 | 27.54863 | 12.95 |
| WB34 | -23.65471 | 27.54765 | 22.95 |
| WB35 | -23.65532 | 27.54468 | 30.98 |
| WB36 | -23.65809 | 27.54053 | 18.34 |
| WB40 | -23.66874 | 27.56888 | 6.72 |
| WB41 | -23.66767 | 27.55999 | 11.51 |
| WB42 | -23.66978 | 27.55489 | 10.05 |
| WB43 | -23.66533 | 27.55837 | 9.32 |
| WB45 | -23.6649 | 27.56437 | 5.37 |
| WB46 | -23.66846 | 27.5643 | 3.74 |
| WB47 | -23.65798 | 27.56088 | 4.81 |
| WB48 | -23.65475 | 27.56388 | 4.25 |
| WB49 | -23.65794 | 27.55955 | 7.05 |
| WB50 | -23.65078 | 27.56328 | 16 |
| WB51 | -23.6606 | 27.56676 | 10.32 |
| WB9 | -23.68162 | 27.53508 | 58.35 |
| WBR10 | -23.63479 | 27.52091 | 33.44 |
| WBR13 | -23.64816 | 27.51341 | 33.8 |
| WBR14P1 | -23.6452 | 27.54194 | 28.87 |
| WBR14P2 | -23.6452 | 27.54194 | 28.76 |
| WBR14P3 | -23.6452 | 27.54194 | 14.25 |
| WBR15 | -23.64467 | 27.55609 | 11.47 |
| WBR16 | -23.64011 | 27.54922 | 22.32 |
| WBR17 | -23.67195 | 27.54886 | 19.79 |
| WBR18 | -23.67015 | 27.55221 | 4.52 |
| WBR19P1 | -23.67035 | 27.55221 | 9.4 |
| WBR19P2 | -23.67035 | 27.55221 | 4.24 |
| WBR2 | -23.65657 | 27.57637 | 8.4 |
| WBR22P2 | -23.68158 | 27.5668 | 32.1 |
| WBR24 | -23.63901 | 27.57888 | 11.35 |
| WBR25 | -23.64727 | 27.52225 | 10.37 |
| WBR26 | -23.66612 | 27.5617 | 5.17 |
| WBR28 | -23.64722 | 27.5516 | 16.71 |
| WBR29 | -23.66501 | 27.55661 | 5.9 |
| WBR3 | -23.63658 | 27.56375 | 3 |
| WBR30 | -23.66564 | 27.55663 | 5.8 |
| WBR31 | -23.66472 | 27.55734 | 5.91 |
| WBR32 | -23.64543 | 27.56684 | 5.4 |
| WBR34 | -23.69304 | 27.5204 | 65.97 |
| WBR35 | -23.69299 | 27.53509 | 63.09 |
| WBR36 | -23.67355 | 27.57018 | 5.76 |
| WBR37 | -23.70176 | 27.57775 | 14.2 |
| WBR37A | -23.70176 | 27.57786 | 14.2 |
| | | | |
| WBR38 | -23.65431 | 27.6018 | 13.35 |
| WBR39 | -23.67662 | 27.55924 | 4.76 |
| WBR4 | -23.64251 | 27.57335 27.57322 | 2.88 |

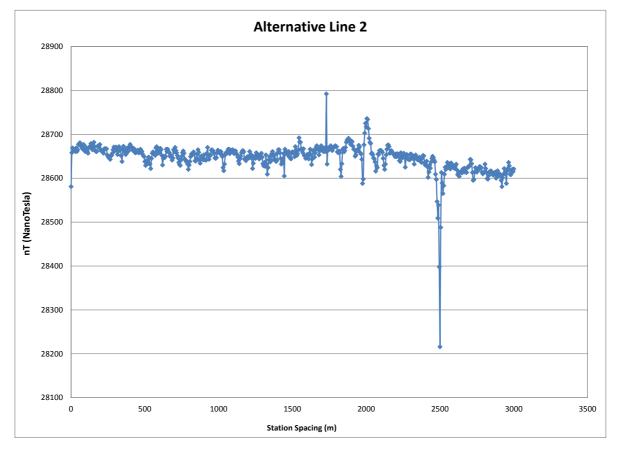
Royal HaskoningDHV

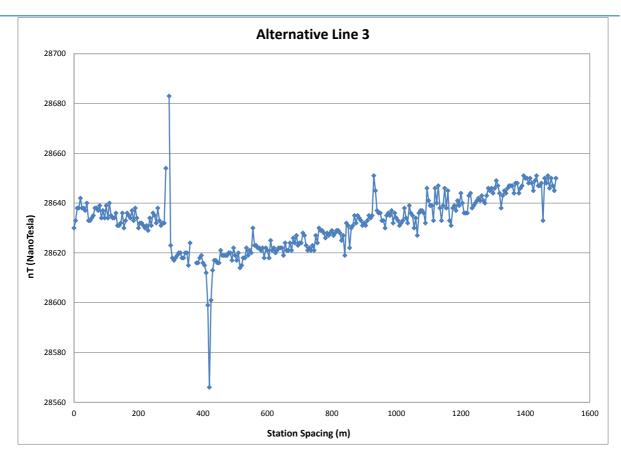
Matimba Ash disposal facility Hydrogeology

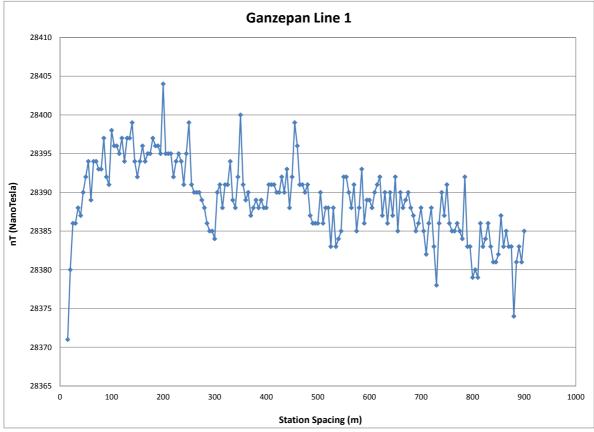
| WBR6P1 | -23.64195 | 27.56813 | -0.45 |
|--------|-----------|----------|-------|
| WBR6P2 | -23.64195 | 27.56813 | 6.74 |
| WBR7 | -23.6422 | 27.5931 | 22.99 |
| WBR8 | -23.62611 | 27.57597 | 11.88 |
| WBR9 | -23.62977 | 27.54518 | 42.98 |

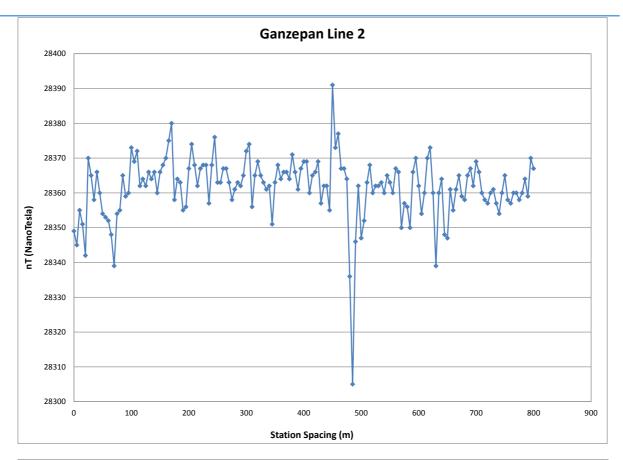
APPENDIX B GEOPHYSICAL DATA

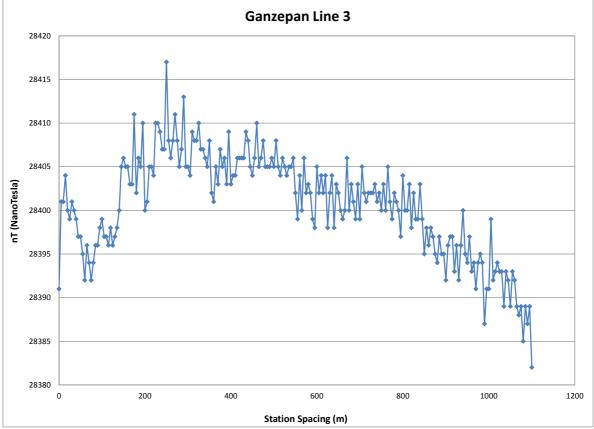


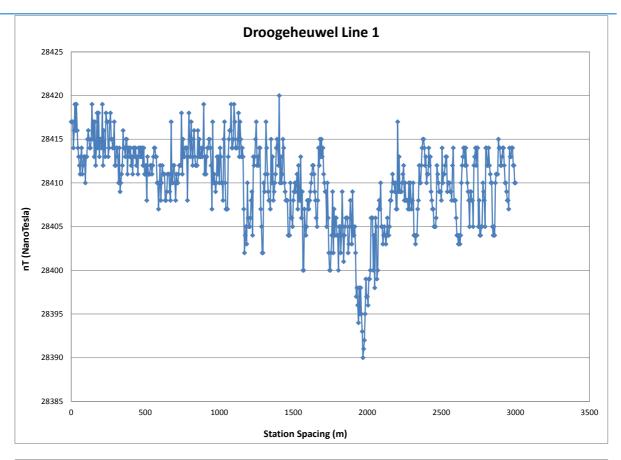


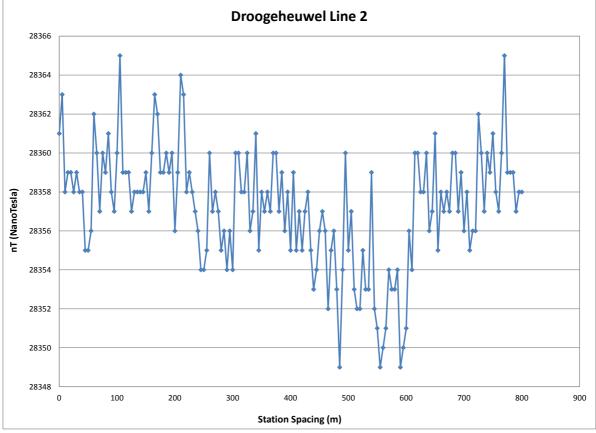








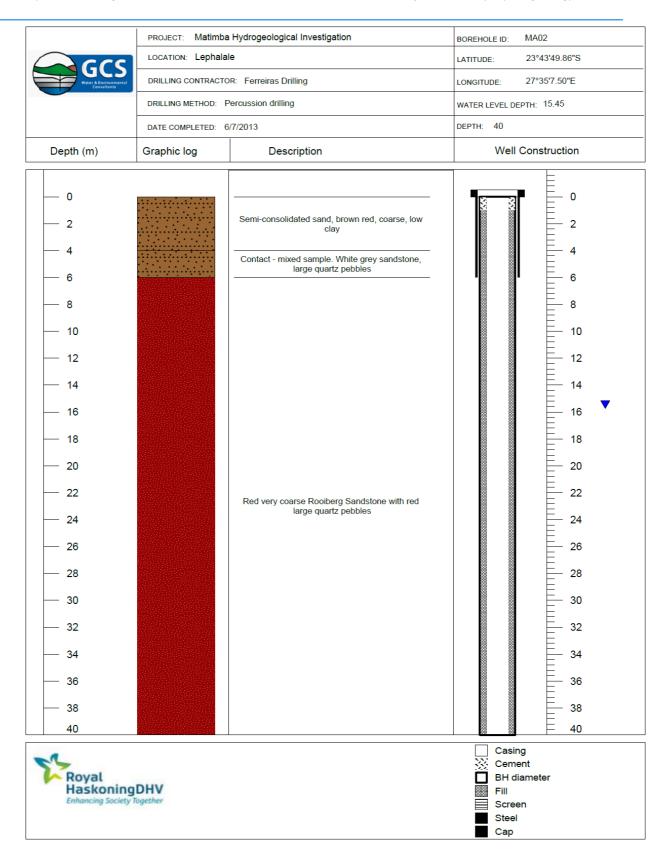




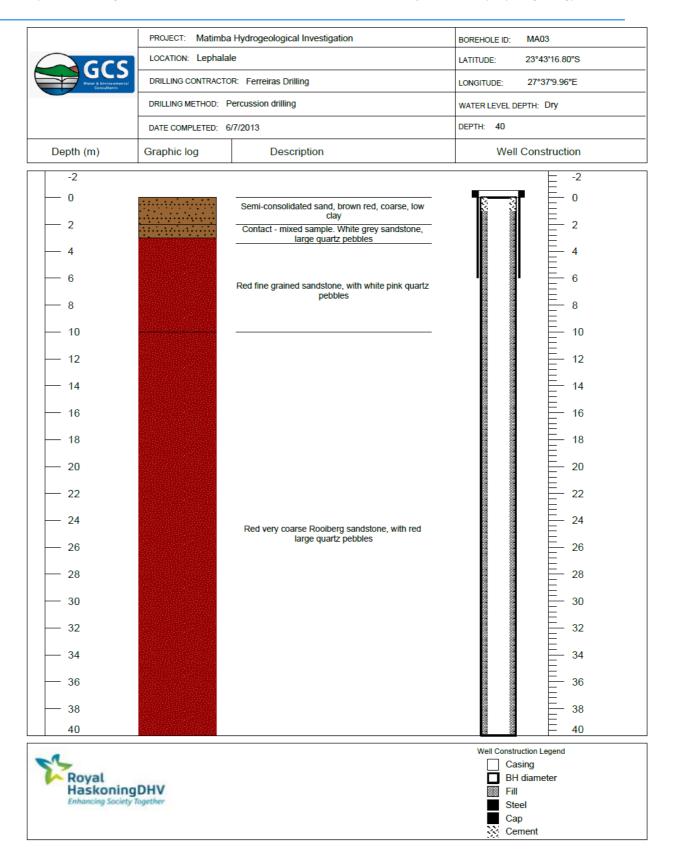
APPENDIX C BOREHOLE LOGS

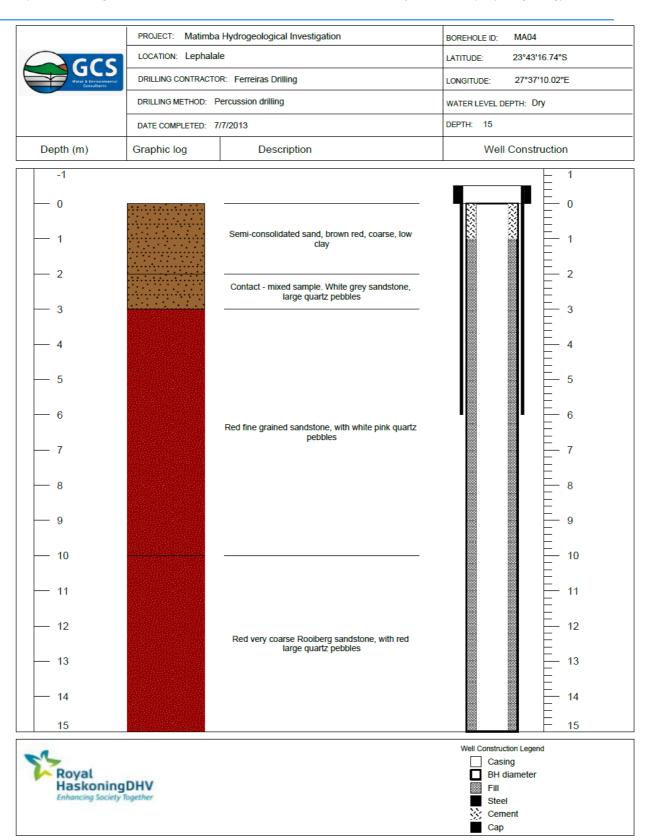
| | PROJECT: Matimb | a Hydrogeological Investigation | BOREHOLE ID: MA1 | |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| CCS | LOCATION: Lephala | ale | LATITUDE: 23°42'36.00"S | |
| Water & Freinsemental Corsultants | DRILLING CONTRACT | OR: Ferreiras Drilling | LONGITUDE: 27°34'58.14"E | |
| | DRILLING METHOD: Percussion drilling | | WATER LEVEL DEPTH: 17.63 | |
| | DATE COMPLETED: | 5/7/2013 | DEPTH: 40 | |
| Depth (m) | Graphic log | Description | Well Construction | |
| $ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$ | | Brown red sand and soil, coarse, not compactable Sand and quartz pebbles, not fully consolidated Contact with Rooiberg sandstone. Red sandstone, coarse with quartz pebbles Red fine grained sandstone with white pink quartz pebbles Red coarse sandstone with white pink quartz pebbles Red coarse sandstone with white pink quartz pebbles Red very coarse Rooberg sandstone with white quartz pebbles Red very coarse Rooberg sandstone with white quartz pebbles Red very coarse Rooberg sandstone with white quartz pebbles | 0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18 20 22 24 26 28 20 | |
| | DHV Together | | Well Construction Legend Casing H diameter Fill Steel Cement Cap | |

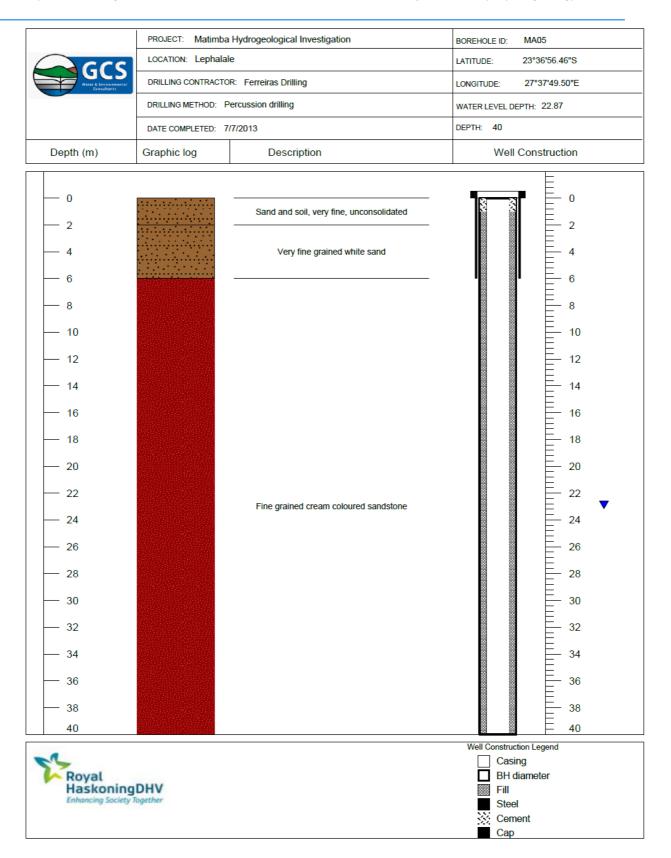
Matimba Ash disposal facility Hydrogeology

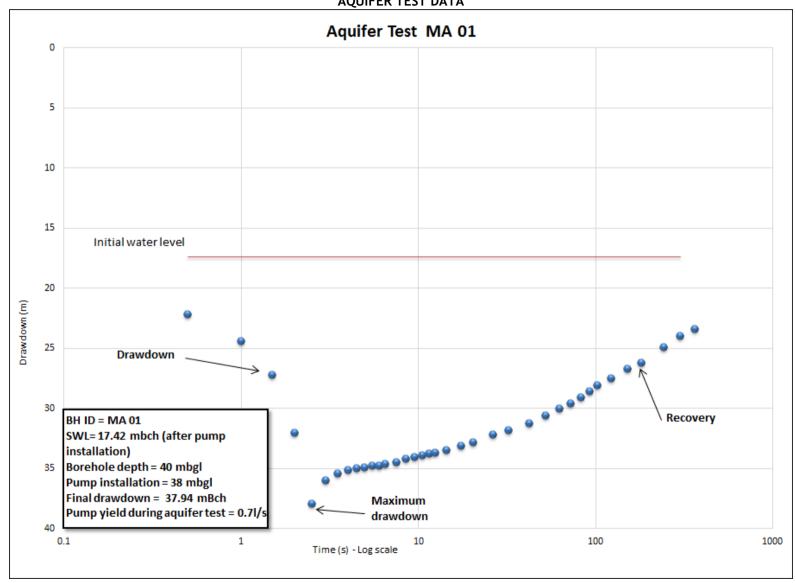


Matimba Ash disposal facility Hydrogeology

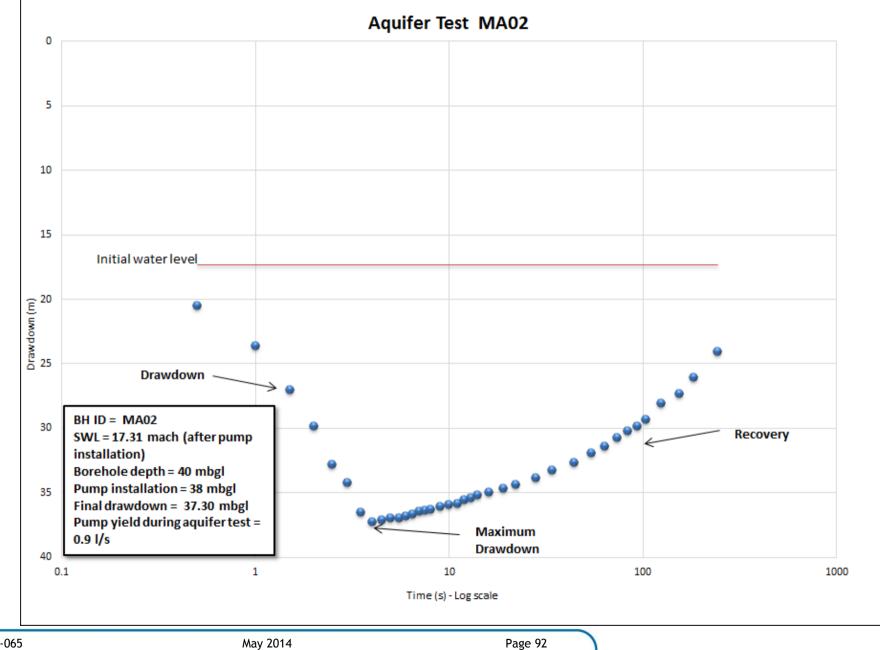


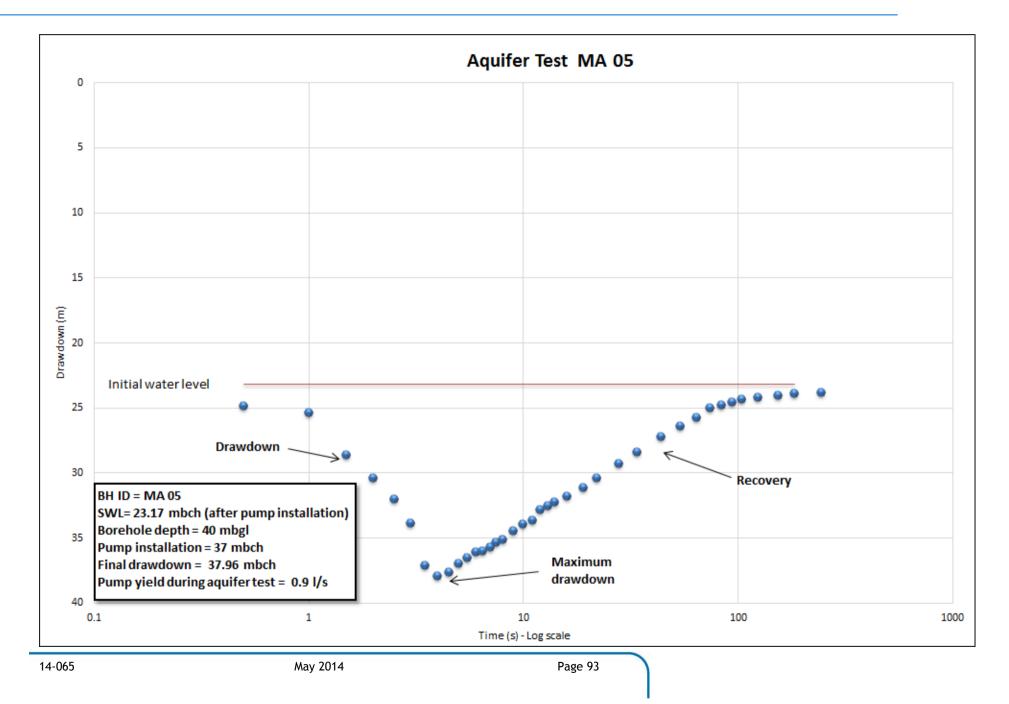


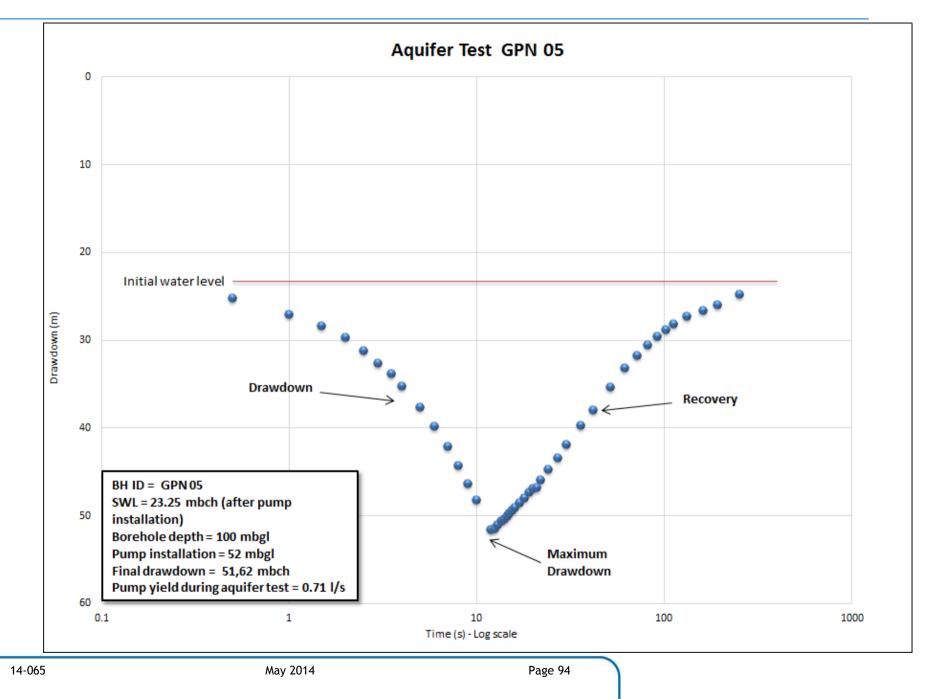


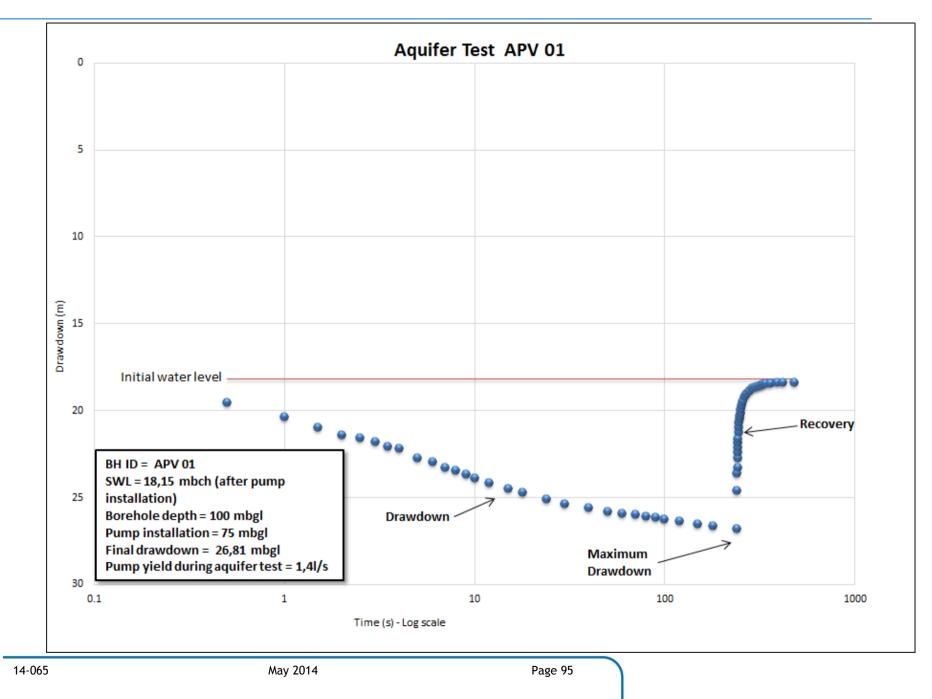


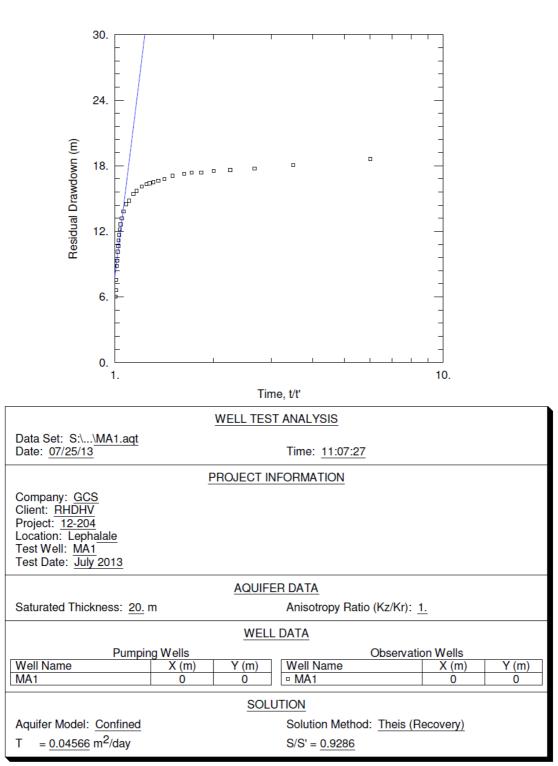
APPENDIX D AQUIFER TEST DATA



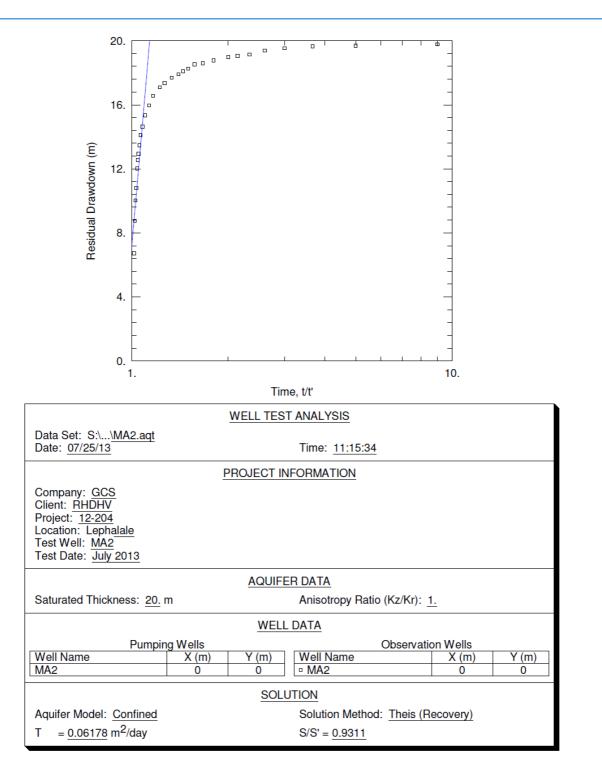


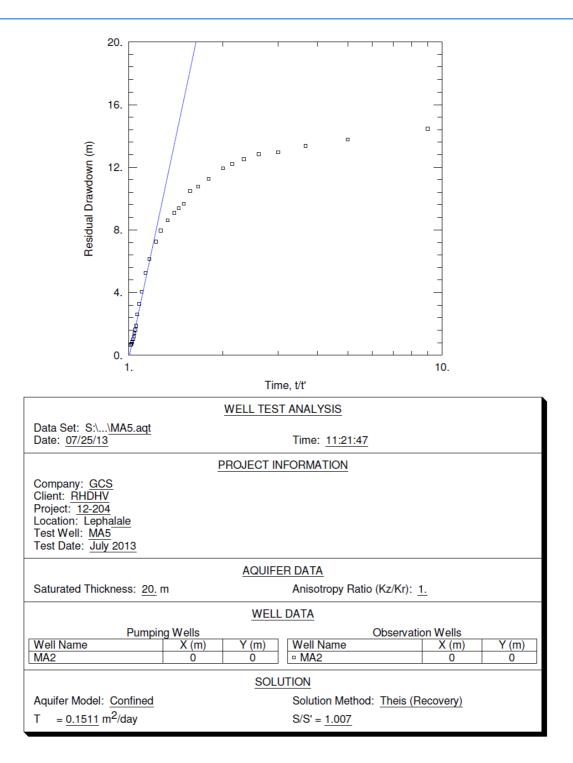


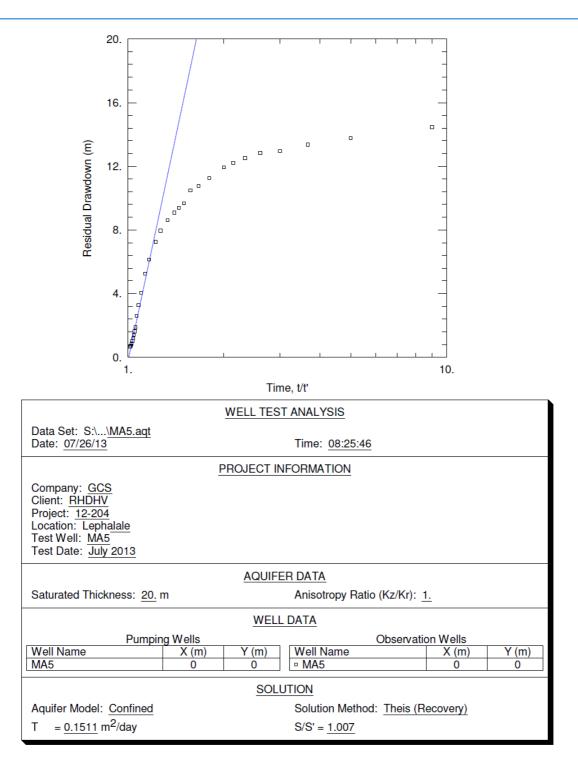


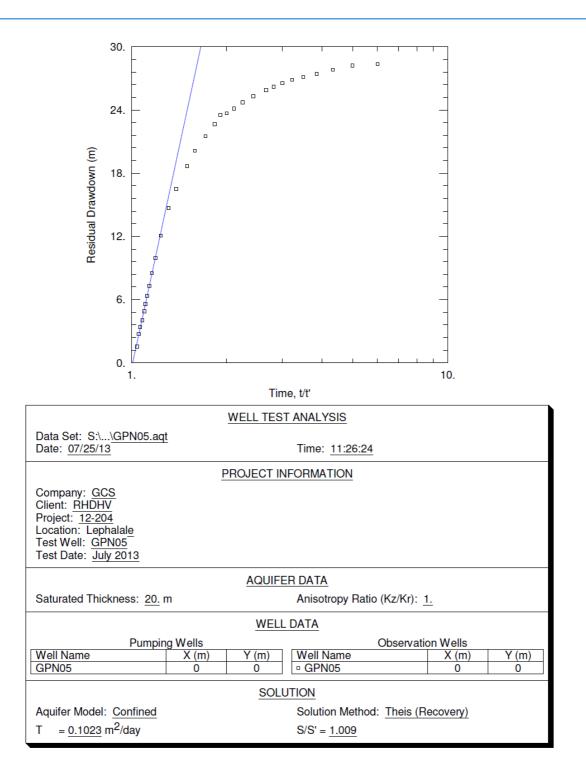


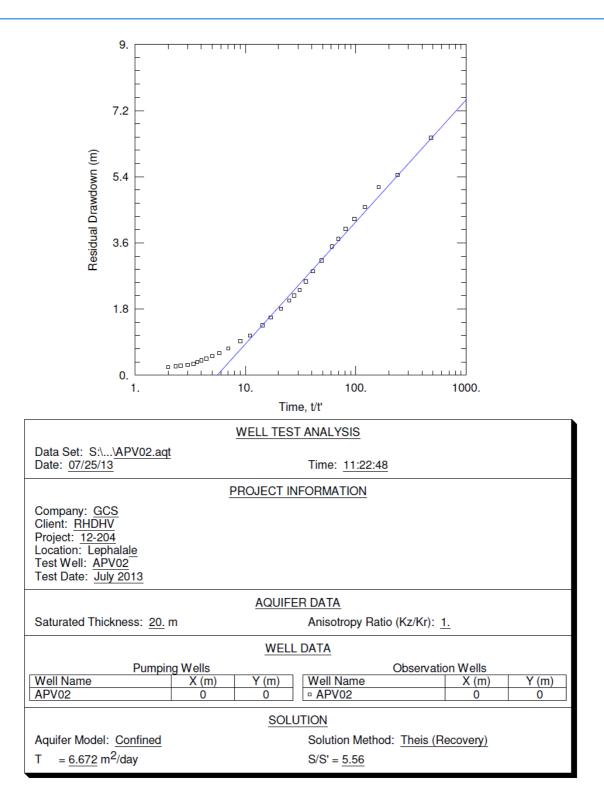
APPENDIX E AQUIFER TEST ANALYSIS











APPENDIX F LABORATORY CHEMISTRY