

# ANNUAL 2025/26 TARIFF CONSULTATIONS

**UPPER KOMATI** 





# ANNUAL 2025/26 TARIFF CONSULTATIONS PROGRAMME

# STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION MEETING ON ANNUAL PERFORMANCE PLAN AND TARIFF SETTING FOR 2025/26 FINANCIAL YEAR

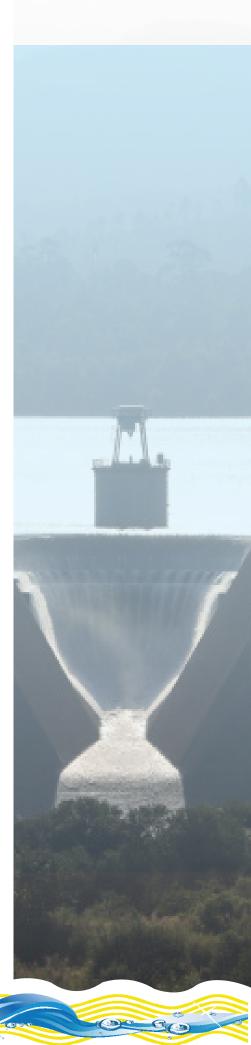
Date: 08 July 2024 | Time: 10:00 to 14:00

Venue: Upper Komati

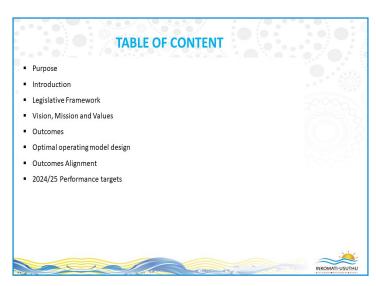
Programme Facilitator: Advocate MB Shabangu

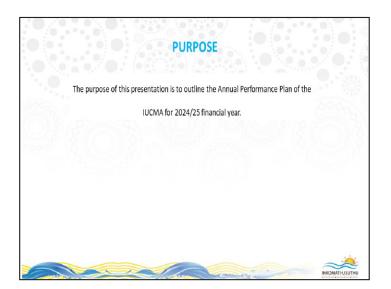
(Executive: Corporate Services)

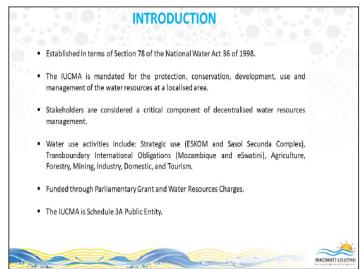
Item:	Proposed Time:	Person Responsible:
Registration and Morning Tea	9:30 - 10:00	All
Opening and Welcome	10:00 - 10:10	Governing Board Member:
		Dr S Mathetsa
Annual Performance Plans for 2024/25	10:30 - 10:50	Acting Chief Executive Officer:
		Dr N Mhlanga-Ndlovu
Water Resources Status	10:50 - 11:10	Acting Executive Water Resource Management:
		Mr M Selepe
2025/26 Proposed Budget and Tariff	11:10 - 11:30	Chief Financial Officer:
		Ms S Mabunda
Waste Discharge Charge System	11:30 - 11:50	Department of Water and Sanitation
Infrastructure Tariffs for 2025/26	11:50 – 12:20	Department of Water and Sanitation
Question and Answers	12:20 - 12:50	All
Closure	12:50 – 13:00	Governing Board Member:
		Dr S Mathetsa
Lunch	13:00 -14:00	All

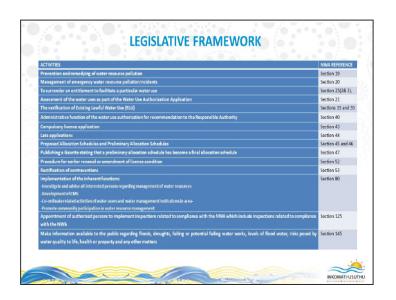




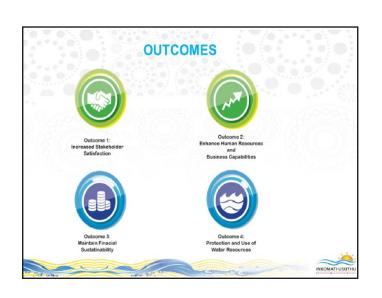


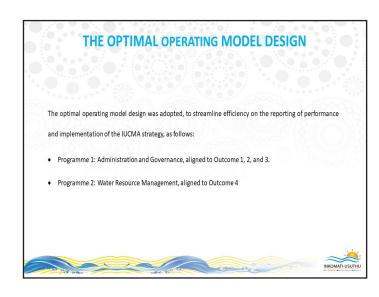


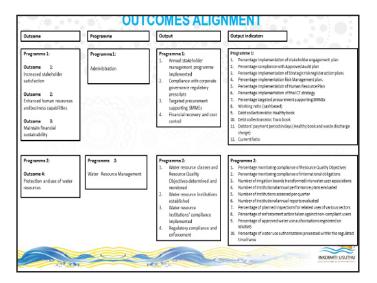


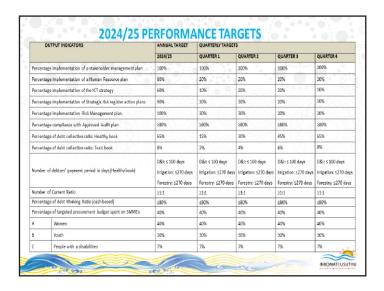


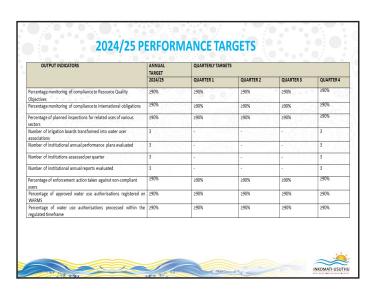






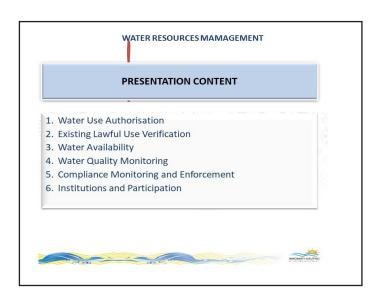




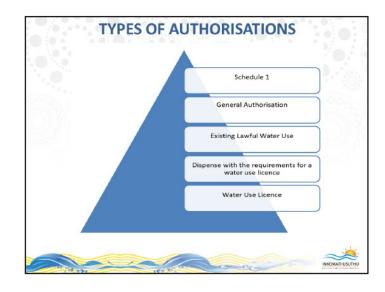




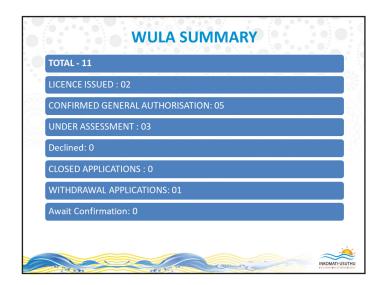




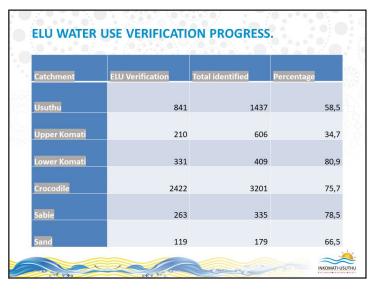


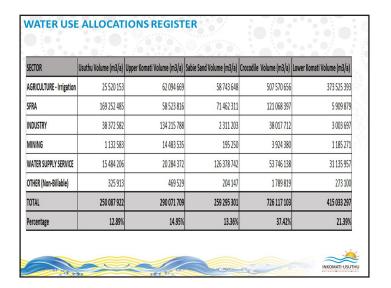


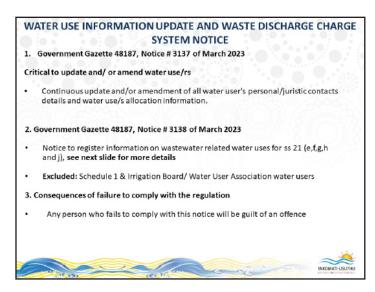
	TYPES OF WATER USES
s21(a)	taking water from a water resource;
s21(b)	storing water;
s21(c)	impeding or diverting the flow of water in a watercourse;
s21(d)	engaging in a stream flow reduction activity (currently only commercial afforestation);
s21(e)	engaging in a controlled activity – activities which impact detrimentally on a water resource (activities identified in s37(1) or declared as such under s38(1)) namely:
	<ul> <li>irrigation of any land with waste or water containing waste which is generated through an industrial activity or a waterwork;</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>an activity aimed at the modification of atmospheric precipitation;</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>a power generation activity which alters the flow regime of a water resource; or</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>intentional recharge of an aquifer with any waste or water containing waste</li> </ul>
s21(f)	discharging waste or water containing waste into a water resource through a pipe, canal, sewer, sea outfall or other conduit;
s21(g)	disposing of waste or water containing waste in a manner which may detrimentally impact on a water resource;
s21(h)	disposing in any manner of water which contains waste from, or has been heated in, any industrial or power generation process;
s21(i)	altering the bed, banks, course or characteristics of a watercourse;
s21(j)	removing, discharging or disposing of water found underground if it is necessary for the efficient continuation if an activity or for the safety of people, and
S21(k)	using water for recreational purposes

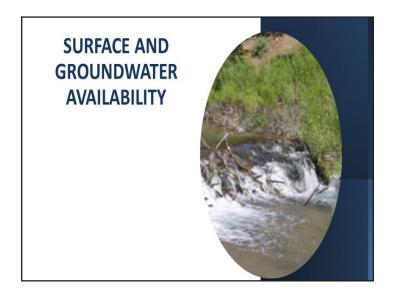


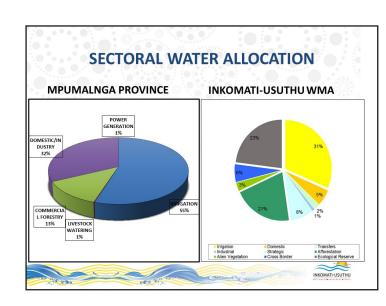


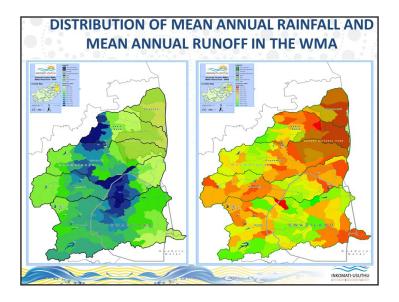


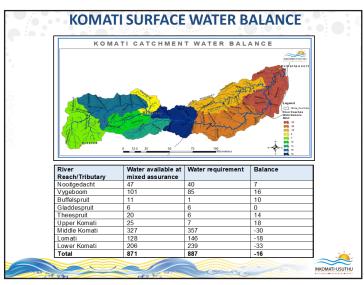


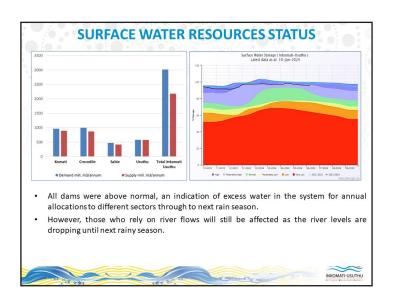


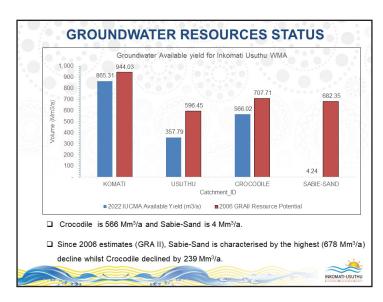




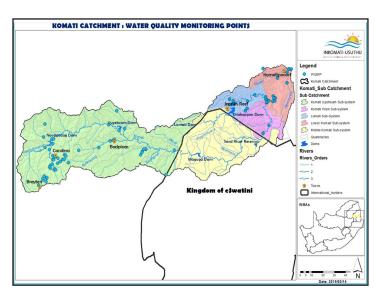






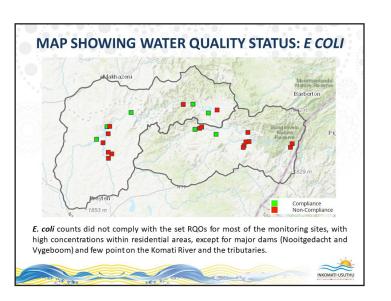


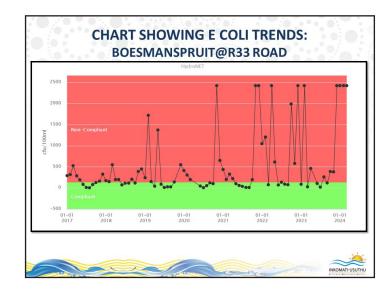




# WATER QUALITY DATA REPORTED • The data reported for Usuthu Catchment ranges between April 2023-March 2024 (2023/2024 Financial year) within the WMA. The compliance of these indicator variables tabulated were compared with South African Water Guideline using the Targeted Water Quality Ranges (TWQR). The selected indicator variables are tabulated: Classified Water quality Indicator Variables Statistical analysis of data variables System variable Average **Electrical Conductivity** Average Phosphate Median **Nutrients** Microbial Average

Classified Water quality variables	Indicator Variables	Areas of concern
Acidity and Basicity	pH	None. Compliant with TWQR throughout the sub-catchment.
Salts	Electrical Conductivity	EC was compliant at most monitoring points with the set TWC within the sub catchment, except the for the Chrissiessmeer lak Egude River and Klipmisselspruit which are dominated I residential area.
Nutrients	Phosphate	None. PO4 complied with the TQWR throughout the reporting time within the catchment, except for Chrissiessmeer lal (Chrissiesmeer), Thole River (Amsterdam), Klipmisselspruit arits tributaries (eMkhondo) due to poor operation armaintenance of WWTWs and its associated infrastructure as we as poor sanitation services.
Microbial	E coli	See water quality status map below, Microbial pollution is due effluent discharge from WWTWs and intensive residential runc pollution (stormwater runoff from rural and urban settlement including direct disposal of domestic refuse, grey water, seepag from latrines, human and animal excrement, as well as sew.



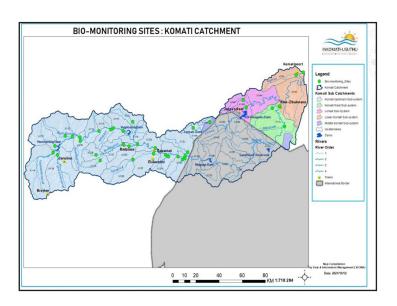


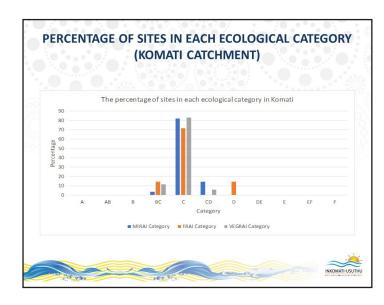


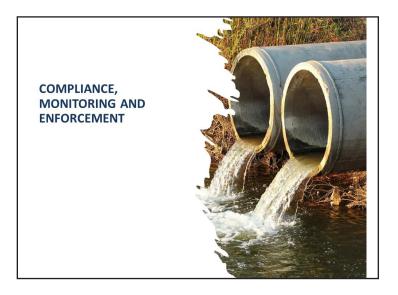








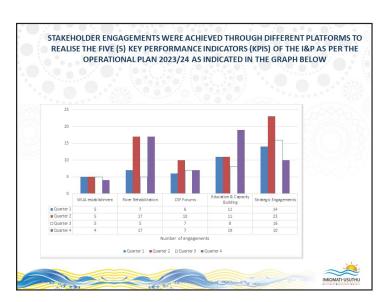


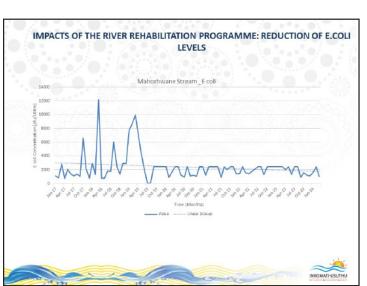


# COMPLIANCE MONITORING & ENFORCEMENT 48 Planned compliance inspections were conducted for water quality related use. 48 Planned compliance inspections were conducted for water quantity related use. > Fifty investigations/complaints/follow ups were attended to. > 20 pollution incidents were attended, and out of these, nine (09) pollution incidents were resolved while a few remain unresolved. > Seven directives were issued. > Fourteen notices of intention to issue a directive were issued. A criminal case was finalized by the Directorate of Public Prosecutions CAS 03/02/1020 Against Mamokebe (Pty) Ltd for the pollution of the resource for the financial year 2023/2024. The accused in representative capacity pleaded guilty and sentenced. The IUCMA continues to monitor the Rehabilitation of the site.

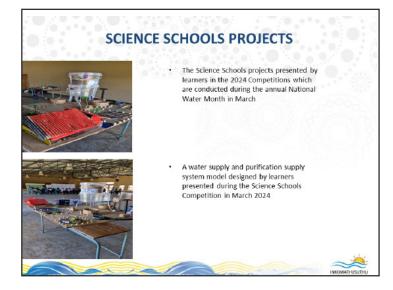


# **FUNCTIONS OF THE INSTITUTIONS &** PARTCIPATION SECTION Establishment, Transformation and Support of Water Management Institutions in the Inkomati Usuthu Water Management Area i.e Transformation of Irrigation Boards into Water User Associations Implementation of Sustainable River Rehabilitation and Adopt a River Programmes. Interaction with stakeholders through the co-ordination of Catchment Stewardship Forum (CSF) meetings in the 6 sub-catchments of the water management area. Stakeholder Empowerment through Capacity Building Workshops, Education and Awareness initiatives targeting commercial and emerging/historically disadvantaged (HDI) water users, Traditional Authorities, Local Government and other spheres of government and the private sector. i.e CMS development, principles of the Prising Strategy and Tariff determination, NWRS development, Facilitating the IUCMA's participation in Local, Transboundary and International integrated water resources management (IWRM) engagements and other environmental related platforms/fora. (Komati Joint Operations Forum, Inco-Maputo, ARaSul, SWADE, KOBWA, Blue Deal, WISA, etc)

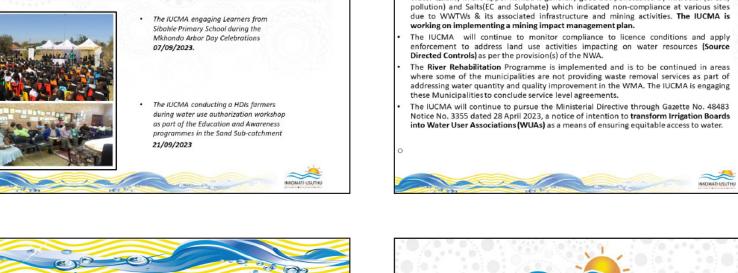




# RIVER REHABILITATION PROGRAME IN THE WMA The Sustainable River Rehabilitation Programme (SRRP) is implemented in the six sub-catchments where 6 project sites were identified in the water management area from 90 people participating Community Groups involved in the River Rehabilitation Programme during 2023/24 This programme contributes to income generation and unemployment reduction within the rural communities (especially amongst the youth and River Rehabilitation Teams at work women) in the WMA.



# SCIENCE SCHOOLS PROJECTS MPUMALANGA PROVINCE **INKOMATI-USUTHU WMA** The IUCMA engaging Learners from Sibahle Primary School during the Mkhondo Arbor Day Celebrations 07/09/2023. The IUCMA conducting a HDIs farmers during water use authorization workshop as part of the Education and Awareness programmes in the Sand Sub-catchment 21/09/2023





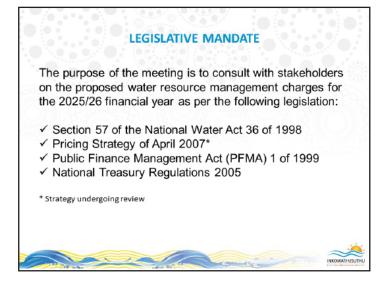


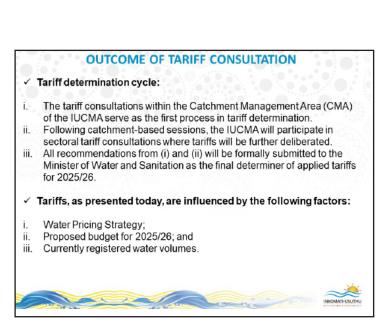
CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

in addressing water allocation management in the WMA.

The verification and validation initiative will be continued as a very important measure

Water Quality in the upper Komati is generally good but punctuated by microbial (E. coli)





# PROJECTED BUDGETED EXPENDITURE BY NATURE FOR 2024/25

- The budget has been formulated to respond to strategic outcomes identified by costing-associated cost drivers.
- The projected budget for 2024/25 is presented with a 9% increase based on the budget approved and applied for 2023/24.
- The proposed budget of the IUCMA is made up of the following expenses by nature of expenditure:
- 71% (R110,2 million) allocated to salaries and wages for key positions that are deemed critical for the delivery of the overarching mandate;
- 25% (R39million) allocated to goods and services;
- Less than 1% (R714k) allocated to repairs and maintenance as well a capital outlay; and
- 1.8% (R2.7 million), allocated to board-related costs.

	APPLIED BUDGET	PROPOSED BUDGET	MOVEMENT	
DESCRIPTION	2024/25	2025/26	Rand	%
Salariers and Wages	107,005,603	110,215,771	3,210,168	3%
Goods and Services	29,949,572	39,454,543	9,504,971	32%
Repairs and Maintenance	450,000	463,500	13,500	3%
Capital Outlay	200,000	206,000	6,000	3%
Board Related Costs	2,691,050	2,707,581	16,531	1%
GRAND TOTAL	140,296,224	153,047,395	12,751,170	9%



# **REGISTRED VOLUMES**

- The Agency is continuously reviewing the correctness of its registered volumes and as such the volumes
- are prone to adjustments.

  Additional notable changes to volumes include the voluntary surrender of water rights as well as the conversion of land use that impacts volumes per sector.
- The Agency's largest allocation remains under Irrigation (50%).

  This sector whilst consuming the most volumes has the lowest assurance. The low assurance inadvertently reduces results in the 2°° lowest tariff being applied.

  An increase of 4% on registered volumes has been recorded in the projections of 2025-26FY

Sectors	Registered Volumes 2024-25	Registered Volumes 2025-26	Movement	2025-26 Projected Allocation in %
Domestic & Industry	434,551,561	445,835,179	11,283,618	21%
Irrigation	1,016,907,245	1,051,304,638	34,397,393	50%
Forestry	424,141,080	425, 962, 037	1,820,957	20%
Waste Discharge Charge	154,225,563	180, 176, 555	25,950,992	9%
Total: Registered Volumes	2,029,825,448	2,103,278,408	73,452,959	100%



# PROPOSED TARIFFS FOR 2025/26

- The Agency has proposed tariff increments that are aligned with the Pricing Strategy.
- Proposed increments range from 5,5% to 21% across the 3 sectors
  The Agency has implanted the Waste Discharge Charge System in the current year.
- Proposed tariffs are deemed to support economic activities in the catchment whilst supporting the Agency to attract sufficient funding to protect the resource.

Sectors	Domestic/ Industrial c/m3	Irrigat	tion c/m3	Forestr	y c/m3	Waste Discharge Charge c/m3
Proposed 2025/26 Tariffs	5,64c	2,70c		2.41c		5,45c
% Increments	11%	5.5%		21%		7%
		as per Water Pricing Strategy				
				SFRA - R10 per [10,000c/m3] + PPI of 5% as pe Strategy.	Base year x	,
as per Pricing Strategy	applicable	as per Water Pr	ricing Strategy	[10,000c/m3] + PPI of 5% as pe Strategy. Percentage	Base year x r Water Pricing	
	applicable	as per Water Pr	Proposed Tariffs	[10,000c/m3] + PPI of 5% as pe Strategy. Percentage Increase	Base year x r Water Pricing Projected Re	

Sectors	Volumes 2025-26	Proposed Tariffs	Increase	Projected Revenue
Domestic & Industry	445,835,179	5.64	1196	25,145,104
Irrigation	1,051,304,638	2.70	5,5%	28, 385, 225
Forestry	425,962,037	2.41	21%	10,265,685
Total: Abstraction	1,923,101,853			63,796,014
Waste Discharge Charge	180,176,555	5.45	7%	9,819,622
Total Projected Revenue: 2024-25	2,103,278,408			73,615,637

# WATER PRICING STRATEGY

FORESTRY (capped by pricing strategy)

The application of the strategy requires the Agency to apply the following computations:

Capped at R10 per hectare. The Agency has not yet reached this tariff therefore any increment is applicable. The Agency has reviewed 4-year trend and found that a 21% increment is within acceptable limits given the projected registered volumes.

# 2. IRRIGATION (capped by pricing strategy)

The application of the strategy requires the Agency to apply the following computations:
 Capped at 1,5c per cubic meter. The Agency has reached the cap therefore the applicable increment rate should be PPI of 5.5%.

3. DOMESTIC INDUSTRY (not capped by pricing strategy)
The Agency has reviewed 4-year trend and found that the application 11% is within acceptable limits given the projected registered volumes.

## 4. WASTE DISCHARGE CHARGE

The Department of Water and Sanitation implemented waste discharge charge as per Water Pricing Strategy as of 01 April 2024. The department issued a government notice No. 3138 of 2023 to notify all water users to register water use especially section 21 (e) (f) (g) (h) and (j). The agency is therefore proposing an increase of 7% of the 5.07c tariff approved in the current year.



## PROPOSED FUNDING STREAM BY NATURE FOR 2024/25

The Agency's funding stream comprises the following major streams per the National Water Act.

- 49% (R75,5 million) is expected to be received as a grant appropriated by parliament:
- 48% (R63,8 million from abstraction & streamflow reduction and R9,8 million from water discharge charges) is expected to be billed to lawful water users in the catchment with a recoverability of 70% in 2025/26, and
- 2.5% (R3,9 million) funded through interest received.

	APPLIED BUDGET	PROPOSED BUDGET	MOVEMENT	
SOURCE OF FUNDING	2024/25	2025/26	Rand	%
Augmentation	72,306,000	75,545,000	3,239,000	4%
Water Resource Charges - Abstraction & Streamflow reduction	56,606,688	63,804,533	7,197,845	13%
Water Resource Charges - WWDC	7,819,236	9,812,775	1,993,539	25%
Interest Received	3,564,300	3,885,087	320,787	9%
GRAND TOTAL	140,296,224	153,047,395	12,751,171	9%

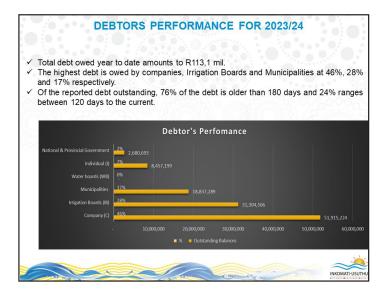


# **DEBTORS PERFORMANCE FOR 2023/24**

- Collection rates have improved over the years as noted by the five-year analysis
- Collections have increased from 44% to 80% over the last five years due to increased strategic engagements as well as the implementation of a responsive debt management strategy.
- There is a slight decrease in terms of collection rate in the 2023-24 compared to 2022-23 FY due to an increase in actual billables.

Period	Projected Billing	Actual Billing	Actual Payments	Collection Rates
2019-20	51,967,518	47,601,490	20,845,686	44%
2020-21	42,139,563	44,897,733	32,880,946	73%
2021-22	55,485,141	34,894,114	23,614,065	68%
2022-23	54,425,408	40,350,434	54,214,046	1349
2023-24	64,425,924	55,902,181	44,617,161	809





# **FUTURE PLANS ON IMPROVING THE FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE AGENCY**

The Agency continuously assesses opportunities to improve its economic viability by the development and identification of innovative solutions.

# i. Implementation of a responsive and measurable debt management strategy that ensures:

- ✓ Customer data integrity
- ✓ Legal action against non-paying customers
- ✓ Increased engagement at strategic levels

# ii. Implementation of cost containment strategy

✓ The Agency has already seen material savings under goods and services in financial year 2023/24.

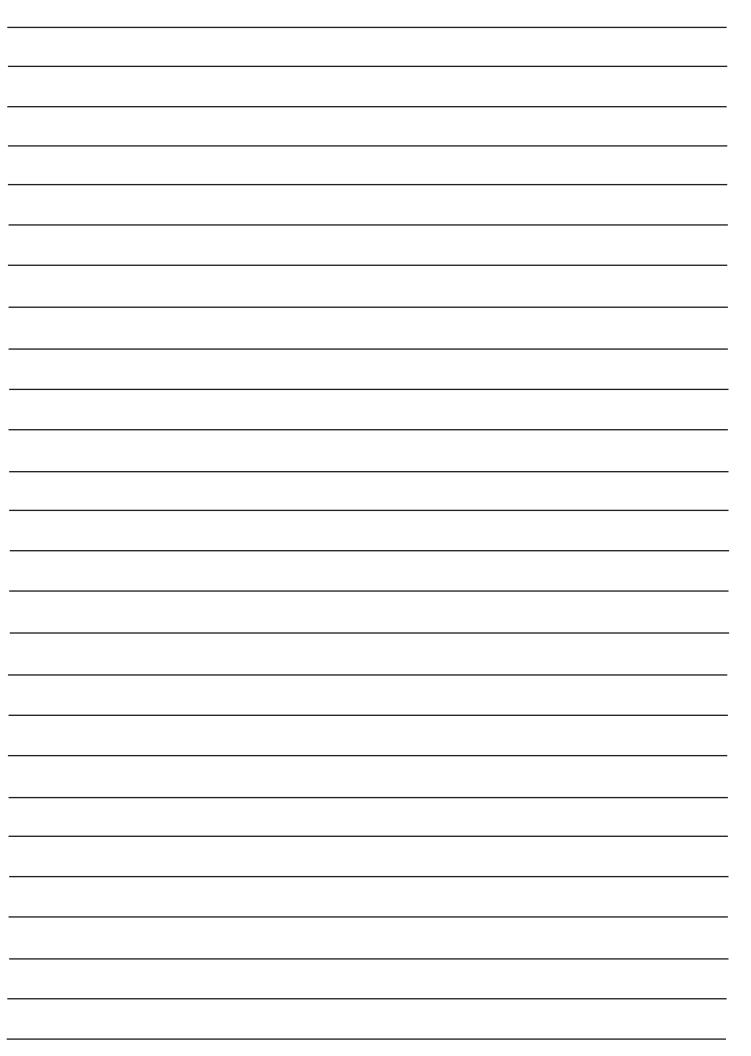
# iii. Identification of alternative funding streams to augment the currently

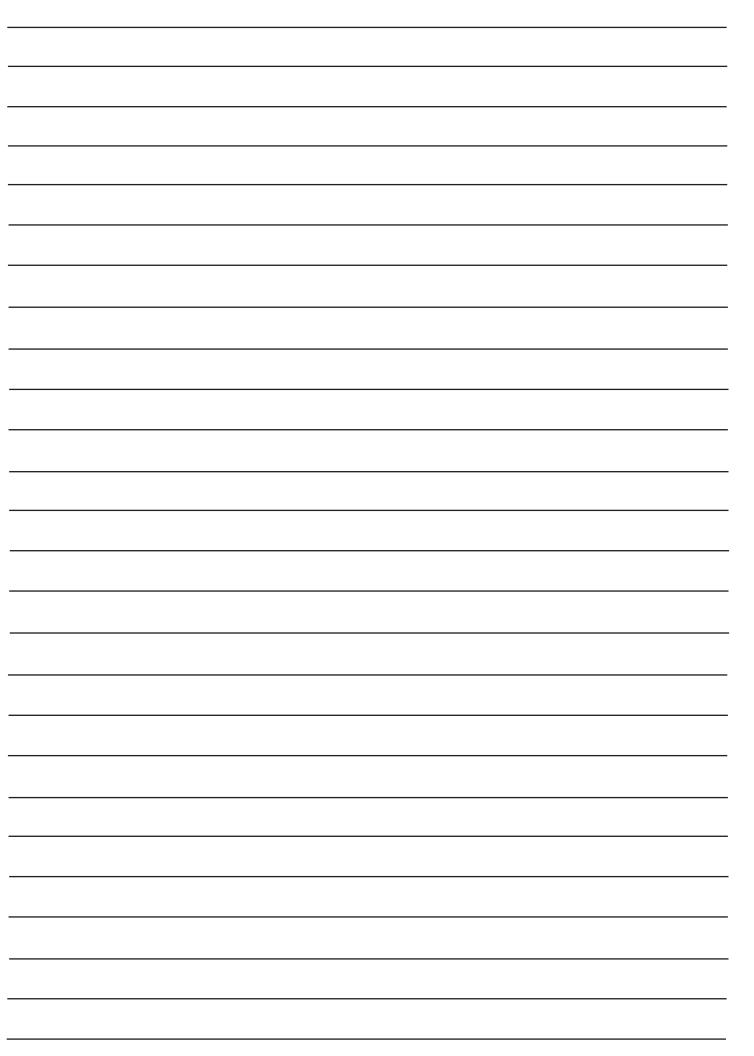
strained revenue streams

✓ Management has identified areas worth exploration. Management is now actively working on a concept document that hopes to see a change of how CMA's are funded and managed.











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