

(1) Request related to the Berg Water Project (BWP)

A section of your website (<http://www.tcta.co.za/bwp.aspx>) describes the Berg Water Project (BWP). It states:

“The R30-million La Motte Village made available 80 houses for service providers involved in the project. Emerging contractors from the project area were awarded contracts to build 40 houses. At the conclusion of the project, the village was transferred to the Stellenbosch Municipality. Proceeds from the sale of the houses are used to fund further housing development in the area.”

We request records, policies, procedures, directives, documents, or other information related to:

a) How the 80 houses were “made available” (Were they rented? Bought? Leased?);

The Cabinet Memorandum approving the implementation of the Berg Water Project contained a ministerial commitment to the local community stating that on completion of the project the 80 houses to be constructed to accommodate key professional and technical staff of the contractors and consultants during implementation would be transferred to the local authority for the benefit of the local community. TCTA developed the La Motte Village Extension by constructing the 80 houses and utilised it to accommodate the various contractors and consultants’ staff during the construction of the dam and pipelines between 2005 and 2008. When the contractors’ and consultants’ staff demobilized on completion of the project the houses and associated infrastructure were transferred to the Stellenbosch Municipality in term of a formal agreement.

b) How much was paid for the houses?

The cost of constructing the La Motte Village Extension amounted to R 25 354 276 made up as follow:

- Contract TCTA B022/1: 40 Houses – R 5 623 032
- Contract TCTA B022/2: 20 Houses – R 2 809 428
- Contract TCTA B022/2: 20 Houses - R 2 980 058
- Contract TCTA-B035 LaMotte Village Services – R 13 941 097

c) The contracts awarded to build 40 houses (Who received the contracts? How much was paid for them? Did the contractors deliver on their contract to build 40 houses?);

The construction of the 80 houses was awarded to three entities as follows (costs indicated above):

- Contract TCTA B022/1: 40 Houses- Power/Donico Joint Venture.
 - Contract TCTA B022/2: 20 Houses- Bright Ideas Projects 632 cc.
 - Contract TCTA B022/2: 20 Houses- Bright Ideas Projects 611 cc.
- The last two entities were local emerging contractors, who both successfully completed the work.

The Construction of the Village Services (Contract TCTA B035) was done by the Department of Water Affairs Construction Unit.

d) Who the houses were sold to?;

The whole La Motte estate (including all 80 houses) was transferred to the Municipality of Stellenbosch in terms of a Transfer Agreement dated 12 September 2008. The Municipality of Stellenbosch is entitled to sell the houses once the land is transferred to it by the Public Works Department. The agreement provides for the proceeds of such sales to be placed in a special BWP Housing Benefit Fund and to be utilized for further housing and community projects in the project area, mainly for the benefit of the La Motte Village and the Groendal area.

e) The prices paid for the houses;

The sale of houses is handled by the Municipality of Stellenbosch.

f) What “further housing development in the area” was funded by the proceeds from the sale of the houses?

This is also the function of the Municipality in terms of the Transfer Agreement

(2) Request related to the Vaal River Eastern Sub-System Augmentation Project (VRESAP)

A section of your website (<http://www.tcta.co.za/vresap.aspx>) describes the Vaal River Eastern Sub-System Augmentation Project (VRESAP). It states:

“TCTA created an excellent track record of local community empowerment. Where possible, employment and training opportunities were offered to communities along the pipeline route. Contract conditions state that the principle contractors recruit 45% of their total workforce from local communities of which 75% should be historically disadvantaged individuals.”

We request records, policies, procedures, directives, documents, or other information related to:

a) What employment and training opportunities were offered to communities?;

Communities were offered various general construction jobs and also Community Liaison opportunities. Some were also offered general administration jobs within the Contractors’ site offices and the Supervising Engineer’s offices.

b) Which communities received these offers?;

Communities of Mamello Informal Settlement near Vaal Marina, Communities of Grootvlei, Balfour and Greylingstad in the Dipaliseng Local Municipality and the Communities of Charl Cilliers and Embalenhle in the Govan Mbeki Local Municipality. Other communities that benefited from the project are the Deneysville and Ratanda Township outside Heidelberg. Six companies which are women owned under the South African Women in Construction also got an opportunity to be trained in project management, construction contracts and administration and construction of ancillary structures.

c) Whether the contract condition that “principle contractors recruit 45% of their total workforce from local communities of which 75% should be historically disadvantaged individuals” was actually fulfilled;

This was actually fulfilled by both Contractors. The data below show how they were achieved.

d) The criteria used to determine whether a community was “historically disadvantaged;”

The Contract specified Historically Disadvantaged Individuals as defined in the Employment Equity Act of 1998.

- Reference number, if available: Not applicable
- Any further particulars of record: Not applicable

