

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



MINISTRY OF WATER AND IRRIGATION

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Ref: MWI/OFTA/10/51/VOL.XI/15

Date: 20th December, 2011

egis BCEOM International
Mangat, I.B Patel & Partners
Consulting Engineers
6th Floor, Bishops Garden Towers
PO Box 48674 00100 GPO
NAIROBI

**RE: PRELIMINARY EIA FOR THE SELECTED SCENARIO NAIROBI
WATER SOURCES PHASE 1 AND 2**

We have received and perused the above report regarding the preliminary Environmental and Social Assessment for the chosen development scenario, considered as the priority strategy out of the six potential development scenarios on the basis of a range of technical and natural resources, economic, environmental, and social criteria to meet the 2017 water demand for Nairobi.

The chosen development scenario includes two initial phases for which potential environmental impacts are assessed. These are:

- Phase 1: Groundwater development in Kiunyu area (2014) then in Ruiru area (2015) (with an estimated total yield of 64,800 m³/d);
- Phase 2: Northern Collector Tunnel Phase I from Maragua, Gikigie and Irati Rivers to Thika reservoir (2016) (with an estimated yield of 138,240 m³/d).

The Ministry of Water and Irrigation (MoWI) hereby concurs with your recommendations regarding environmental impacts and the corresponding mitigation measures. Specifically we note that significant amount of material will be excavated from the proposed tunnels and instead of considering these excavated material as spoil, requiring disposal, a good sustainable development initiative that the local population can take up shall be implemented alongside the tunnel construction.

The above will involve conversion of the excavated materials into useful raw material for a range of economic activities such as road repair and construction, and for use as building material (e.g. blocks and bricks).

Towards this end, MoWI will assist Athi Water Services Board (AWSB) acquire 5 sites measuring 1 acre, 2 acres, 3 acres, 3 acres and 1 acre respectively to be used as the crushing/excavated material yard. In addition MoWI will guide AWSB in assisting the local population to develop cost recovery business models, while the Northern Collector project will include as part of preliminary items for the project the purchase of crushing equipment to be managed by the affected local population.

We appreciate the quality of the study and look forward to the successful completion of the remaining components of the study.


for **ENG. DAVID STOWER, CBS, OGW**
PERMANENT SECRETARY