

OUTENIQUA WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY (WRF)

PROJECT SUMMARY

The Outeniqua Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) is a strategic water security project for George Municipality designed to augment potable water supplies through advanced treatment and indirect potable reuse of treated wastewater.

The project responds to growing water demand, recurring drought risks and the need to diversify raw water sources beyond the Garden Route Dam. The WRF will utilise treated effluent from the Outeniqua Wastewater Treatment Works and convert it into high-quality reclaimed water for augmentation of municipal water resources.

The concept assessment confirmed that the project is technically viable and capable of producing approximately 10 ML/day of reclaimed water under the preferred configuration.

PROJECT STATUS

The project has completed a concept and viability assessment, including condition assessments, option analysis, economic feasibility studies, socio-economic impact assessment and preliminary regulatory reviews.

Option 1, Carbon-Based Indirect Potable Reuse, was identified as the preferred solution. The project is advancing through PPP and BFI preparation processes, including feasibility studies and funding applications.

FINANCIAL NEEDS

Approximate value: R595 million

This amount is the estimated capital value, excluding VAT. The project has an identified funding shortfall of approximately R325.2 million and is being positioned for a blended funding solution including BFI support, DFI funding and private-sector participation.

Funding is required to progress feasibility, approvals, detailed design, procurement, financial close, construction, commissioning, and long-term operations arrangements for the WRF.

PUBLIC / PRIVATE SECTOR OPPORTUNITY

The project presents a clear opportunity for public-sector leadership supported by specialist private-sector participation. The public value lies in water security, drought resilience, diversified supply and improved long-term reliability for George Municipality.

Private-sector participation could include:

Design, construction and commissioning of the WRF

Operations and maintenance services for advanced water treatment infrastructure

Supply of advanced water treatment technologies and process equipment

Renewable energy and digital monitoring solutions

Potential PPP participation for long-term asset management

MAP OF THE PROJECT



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Key parties include:

KEY PARTIES



George Municipality - project owner and water services authority
Western Cape Provincial Treasury - provincial fiscal and funding alignment
Development Finance Institutions - potential funding partners

Department of Water and Sanitation - regulatory and sector support
GTAC - PPP and transaction preparation support
Potential PPP partners and technology providers - design, finance, construction, operations and maintenance

National Treasury / BFI - funding preparation and application support
Pegasys Strategy & Development - project preparation support

TIMELINE



The timeline below reflects the high-level programme information provided for the Outeniqua WRF. Dates should be treated as indicative until the PPP, BFI, approvals, procurement and financial close processes are confirmed.

PHASE	INDICATIVE TIMING	KEY ACTIVITIES
Concept and viability study	Completed	Concept assessment, condition assessment, options analysis, economic feasibility, socio-economic impact assessment and preliminary regulatory review completed.
PPP and BFI preparation	Aim: Jan 2027	Progress feasibility studies, funding applications, affordability assessment, PPP preparation and blended funding discussions.
Detailed design and approvals	2027	Advance technical design, regulatory approvals, water quality assurance requirements, procurement documentation and implementation readiness.
Procurement and financial close	Planned Q2 2027	Finalise procurement route, appoint delivery partners, confirm funding package and achieve financial close.
Construction	Planned start Q3 2027	Construct advanced treatment and associated integration works linked to Outeniqua WWTW and the municipal water resource system.
Commissioning and operations	2028	Commission the WRF and commence operations, monitoring, compliance management and long-term asset management arrangements.