

# MINING

REVIEW AFRICA

Homepage



## NEWS STORY

LEAVE COMMENT >



Speciality Minerals

26 OCTOBER 2017

# Kropz dewatering at Elandsfontein accepted by water monitoring committee

Kropz ground water monitoring results over a six month-period at Elandsfontein have shown that all water is being well accepted downstream of the mining area.

Kropz monitoring results over a six month-period from April to September 2017 have shown that all water being pumped by the borehole system designed to dewater the mining area of Kropz's Elandsfontein phosphate mine near Saldanha Bay is being well accepted downstream of the mining area, where flow continues towards the Langebaan Lagoon.

Kropz results were presented at the first meeting of the Elandsfontein Water Monitoring Committee (WMC), made up of 11 different organisations, at the [Elandsfontein](#) mine site on 6 October 2017.

Kropz results presented by Julian Conrad of Geoss Groundwater Consultants showed that:

- The artificial recharge of the aquifer is successful
- To date, the dewatering and recharge has no negative impact on either the Elandsfontein aquifer or the Langebaan Lagoon
- The actual results observed during ground water monitoring are in line with the predictions of the numerical groundwater model, developed during the [Water Use License](#) (WUL) permitting process

Data included ground water levels and electrical conductivities (a measure of the dissolved salts or salinity in the water).

The function of the WMC, establishment of which is a condition of the Elandsfontein WUL, is to:

- Oversee the implementation of the Elandsfontein water monitoring programme
- Assess the effectiveness of the applied monitoring to protect the water resource; and
- To make recommendations to improve the monitoring

The WMC is made up of 11 different member organisations:

- The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)
- The Saldanha Bay Municipality (SBM)
- West Coast District Municipality (WCDM)
- West Coast Environmental Protection Association (WCEPA)
- Saldanha Bay Water Quality Forum Trust
- Department of Environmental Affairs and Development Planning
- Cape Nature
- SANParks
- The Cape West Coast Biosphere Reserve
- Hopefield Landbouvereniging
- Kropz Elandsfontein; and their groundwater specialists.

All member organisations of the WMC accepted the findings and conclusions of Conrad's presentation except WCEPA, which stated that longer monitoring is required before such conclusions can be drawn.

Detailed geo-chemical sampling is scheduled for later in October 2017, and results will be presented at the WMC's next meeting, scheduled for six months' time.

During the WMC inaugural meeting, the value of monitoring was clearly demonstrated and the need for wider-spread regional groundwater monitoring was raised.

This will benefit all groundwater users within the wider region and assist with future decision-making and management of our valuable groundwater resources.

While such monitoring would fall beyond requirements of the Kropz Elandsfontein WUL, Kropz is willing to combine its monitoring data with regional data provided by, amongst others, DWS, SBM, WCDM and the [Council for Scientific and Industrial Research](#).

***Feature image credit: Wikimedia***



## JOIN THE DISCUSSION

Notify of



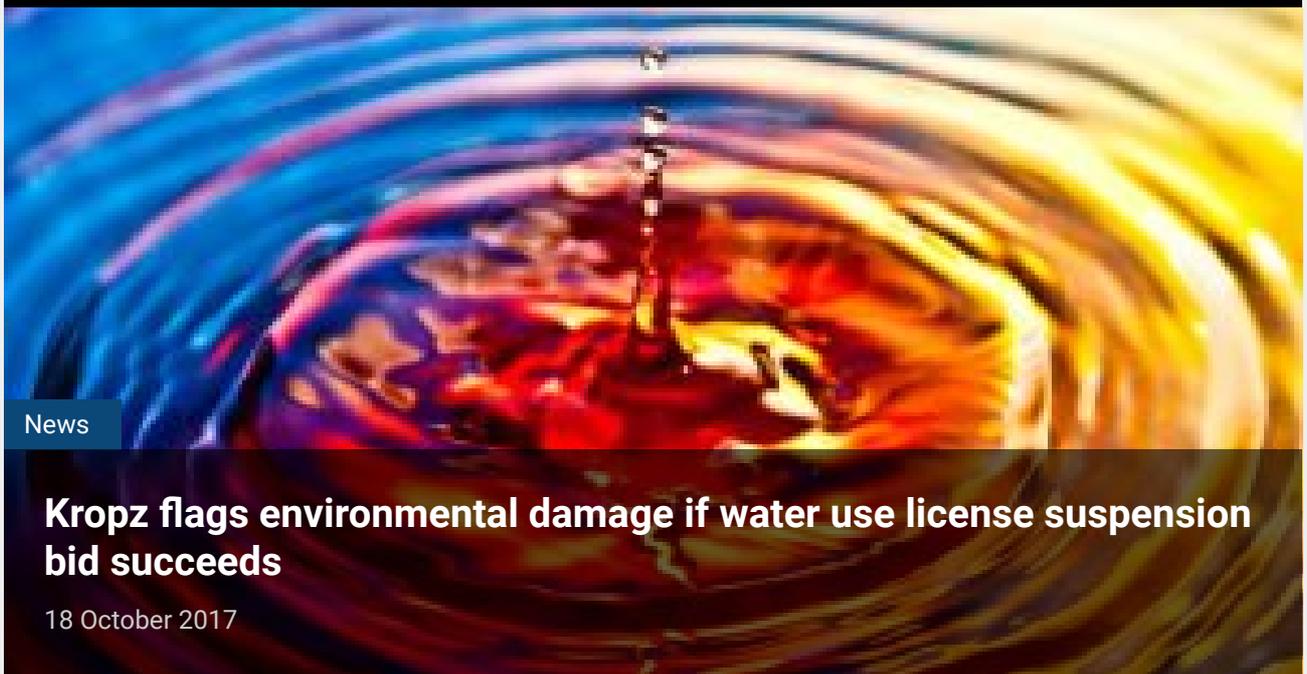
Start the discussion

## DO YOU HAVE A STORY TO SHARE?

USE SUBMIT NEWS FORM

**SEND US AN EMAIL**

**READ MORE**



News

**Kropz flags environmental damage if water use license suspension bid succeeds**

18 October 2017



News

**Kropz welcomes Saldanha Bay Municipality response to allegations of complicity**

11 September 2017