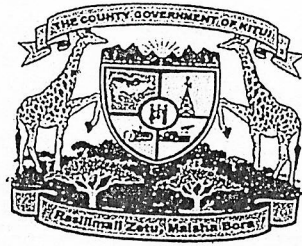


COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF KITUI



THE COUNTY ASSEMBLY

THIRD ASSEMBLY – THIRD SESSION (2024)

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, WATER AND IRRIGATION

RESPONSE TO STATEMENT REQUEST BY HON. BENJAMIN NDAMBU MULANDI ON THE PROPOSED DRILLING OF BOREHOLES ACROSS THE COUNTY IN THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2023/2024 AND THE STATUS OF KYANGULU-NZINIA-MBUINI-KAKEANI- IIANI WATER PIPELINE PROJECT IN MUTONGUNI WARD

**Clerk's Chambers,
Kitui County Assembly Buildings,
P.O Box 694-90200
KITUI.**

SEPTEMBER, 2024

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ABBREVIATIONS/ACRONONYMS

CGoK	- County Government of Kitui
CECM	- County Executive Committee Member
CO	- Chief Officer
F. Y	- Financial Year
KITWASCO	- Kitui Water and Sanitation Company
KIMWASCO	- Kiambere-Mwingi Water and Sanitation Company
KPLC	- Kenya Power and Lighting Company
MCA	- Member of County Assembly
TAWWDA	- Tanathi Water Works Development Agency

1.0 PREFACE

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Hon. Speaker,

As you are aware, Hon. Benjamin Ndambu Mulandi requested for a statement from the Chairperson Committee on Agriculture Water and Irrigation, on the proposed drilling of boreholes across the county in the Financial Year 2023/2024 and the status of Kyangulu-Nzinia-Mbuini-Kakeani- Iiani water pipeline project in Mutonguni Ward, pursuant to the provisions of the Kitui County Assembly Standing Order No. 41(2C).

The Committee deliberated on the issues raised in the statement and prepared this response based on her assessment, in accordance with the provisions outlined in the County Assembly Standing Order No. 41(2C) (c),

1.2 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Hon. Speaker,

The Committee on Agriculture, Water and Irrigation was constituted pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order No. 190(1) as currently constituted. The Committee comprises the following members: -

1. Hon. Anthony Musyimi Musyoka	Chairperson
2. Hon. Joseph Musyoka Mbite	Vice-Chairperson
3. Hon. Christopher Nzilu Nzioka	Member
4. Hon. Sylvester Kitheka Munyalo	Member
5. Hon. Harrison Maluki Mawia	Member
6. Hon. Bonface Mukwate Katula	Member
7. Hon. Aron Kilonzi Kasele	Member

8. Hon. Fastina Mwende Solomon Salu	Member
9. Hon. Jacquelyne Cate Kalenga	Member
10. Hon. Muthama Musyoka Kieti	Member
11. Hon. Immaculate Wanza John	Member

1.3 COMMITTEE'S MANDATE

Hon. Speaker,

The Committee draws her mandate from the provisions of Standing Order No. 190(5) which *inter alia* provides that, a Sectorial Committee shall: -

- a) Investigate, inquire into and report on all matters relating to the mandate, management, activities, administration, operation and estimates of the assigned department;
- b) Study programs and policy objectives of departments and the effectiveness of the implementation;
- c) Study and review all county legislation referred to it;
- d) Study, assess and analyse the relative success of departments as measured by the results obtained as compared with their stated objectives;
- e) Investigate and inquire into all matters relating to the assigned departments as they may deem necessary, and as may be referred to them by the County Assembly;
- f) To vet and report on all appointments where the constitution or any law requires the County Assembly to approve, except those under Standing Order 185 (Committee Appointments); and

- g) Make reports and recommendations to the county assembly as often as possible, including recommendation of proposed legislation.

1.4 COMMITTEE'S SECRETARIAT

- i. Winfred Musyoki - Clerk Assistant
- ii. Benedict Mutuku - Hansard Reporter

1.5 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Hon. Speaker,

On behalf of the Committee on Agriculture, Water and Irrigation, I would like to express my gratitude to the Office of the Hon. Speaker, Members of the Committee, Office of the Clerk of Assembly and the Committee Secretariat for their invaluable and continuous support extended to the Committee in executing her duties.

Additionally, the Committee wishes to extend her appreciation to the County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Water and Irrigation and the Chief Officer for the Department of Water, who provided the necessary information which was critical in forming the observations and recommendations of this report.

Hon. Speaker,

On behalf of the Committee, and pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order 41(2C) (c), it is my pleasant duty and privilege to present this Statement Response to this Honourable House for consideration and adoption.

SIGNED



DATE:

4/9/2024

**HON. ANTHONY MUSYIMI MUSYOKA (MCA)
CHAIRPERSON, COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, WATER &
IRRIGATION.
COUNTY ASSEMBLY OF KITUI.**

2.0 BACKGROUND

Hon. Speaker,

During the Afternoon Plenary Sitting of Wednesday, 31st, July 2024, Hon. Benjamin Ndambu Mulandi made a Statement Request to the Chairperson Committee on Agriculture Water and Irrigation on the proposed drilling of boreholes across the county in the Financial Year 2023/2024 and the status of Kyangulu-Nzinia-Mbuini-Kakeani-Iiani water pipeline project in Mutonguni Ward, Pursuant to the provisions of County Assembly Standing Order No. 41(2C) (*copy attached as Annexure 2*).

Hon. Speaker,

In light of the aforementioned concerns, the Honourable Member requested the Chairperson to address the following issues raised in the Statement Request:

- a. The list of all boreholes which were drilled in the Financial Year **2023/2024** in all the **forty (40)** wards and specific villages indicating their status and also the total number of boreholes which were not drilled and when they will be drilled.
- b. The circumstances which led the boreholes **not be drilled in some Wards** as proposed and funded in the budget for the Financial Year 2023/2024.
- c. The strategies which County Ministry is putting in place to ensure the **Kyangulu-Nzinia-Mbuini-Kakeani-Iiani water pipeline project** in Mutonguni Ward is completed as well as the specific timelines for completion.

Hon. Speaker,

Standing Order No. 41(2C) (a) stipulates that: *“Whenever a member requests for a statement, the Speaker shall direct the relevant Committee under whose mandate the Statement falls, to invite the County Executive Committee Member or the Chief Officer under whose purview the matters raised in the Statement fall, to a meeting of the committee to deliberate on the Statement.”*

Hon. Speaker,

Upon receiving the statement request and in accordance with the provisions of Standing Order No.41(2C)(a), the Committee on Agriculture, Water and Irrigation, through the office of the Clerk invited the CECM Water and Irrigation to appear before her on 8th, August 2024, to deliberate on the issues raised in the statement request (*copy attached as Annexure 3*).

Hon. Speaker,

Further, pursuant to the provisions of Standing Order No. 41(2C)(b), the Member who requested for the Statement shall be invited to the Committee meeting whenever the County Executive Committee Member or the Chief Officer is to appear to respond to the Statement. Based on the provisions, the Committee invited Hon. Benjamin Ndambu Mulandi to participate in the deliberations between the Committee and the aforementioned officials.

3.0 SUBMISSIONS FROM THE CECM, WATER & IRRIGATION

Hon. Speaker,

The County Executive Committee Member for Water and Irrigation Mr. Peter Gitonga Nkunda accompanied by the Chief Officer for

Water Department Mr. Nathan Kasamba Vungo appeared before the Committee on 8th August, 2024 and responded to the issues raised in the statement as follows:

a. The list of boreholes proposed to be drilled in the Financial Year 2023/2024 in all the forty (40) wards and the estimated cost.

Hon. Speaker,

The boreholes which were proposed to be drilled in the Financial Year 2023/2024 together with the proposed estimated cost are as follows;

S/NO	WARD	NAME OF THE BOREHOLE	ESTIMATED COST (ksh)
1.	Ngomeni	Syanoni(ikime) borehole	3,500,000
2.	Tseikuru	Ituva boarehole	3,500,000
3.	Mumoni	Kamathitu boarehole	3,500,000
4.	Tharaka	Gatoroni borehole	3,500,000
5.	Kyuso	Mandara borehole	3,500,000
6.	Nuu	Kavindu borehole	3,500,000
7.	Waita	Katuluni borehole	3,500,000
8.	Nguni	Kwa-Mwathi Mbuthi - Ivuusya borehole	3,500,000
9.	Kivou	Kanzoka	3,500,000
10.	Mui	Nduvani	3,500,000
11.	Mwingi Central	Rock-catchment (Noborehole)	3,500,000
12.	Kyome-thaana	Ndaluni-KwaKithome	3,500,000
13.	Nguutani	Mavuni	3,500,000
14.	Kiomo/Kyethani	Kakongo	3,500,000

15.	Migwani	Mumbuni/Katalwa	3,500,000
16.	Matinyani	Kwa-mutava kyembeni dam de-silting (no borehole identified)	3,500,000
17.	Kithumula-Kwa/Mutonga	Kithumula borehole	3,500,000
18.	Mutonguni	Kangii borehole	3,500,000
19.	Kauwi	St.Peters Ngengekani borehole	3,500,000
20.	Kisasi	Kwa-Sendi borehole	3,500,000
21.	Kanyangi	Kilumya borehole	3,500,000
22.	Mbitini	Kilamba borehole	3,500,000
23.	Yatta-Kwa Vonza	Kitukuni borehole	3,500,000
24.	Township	Manyenyoni borehole	3,500,000
25.	Kyangwithya East	Kyemwengi boarehole	3,500,000
26.	Kyangwithya West	Kisyoka borehole /Ndumoni borehole	3,500,000
27.	Miambani	Ngaa borehole	3,500,000
28.	Mulango	Nzunguni borehole	3,500,000
29.	Mutitu/Kaliku	Ikoo-Imwatine-Kaliku-Mukanga.	3,500,000
30.	Endau/Malalani	Kakame-Kyeni confluence borehole	3,500,000
31.	Nzombe/Mwitika	Kwa Mbithuka borehole	3,500,000
32.	Chuluni	Kaluva borehole(hybridization)	3,500,000
33.	Voo-Kyamatu	Kaluasi borehole	3,500,000

34.	Nzambani	Kilonzo-Mathulini borehole	3,500,000
35.	Athi	Senda borehole	3,500,000
36.	Ikanga/Kyatune	Kathithu borehole	3,500,000
37.	Ikutha	Kwa-Mukai Mutunga borehole	3,500,000
38.	Kanziko	Kanziku Market borehole	3,500,000
39.	Mutha	Kwa-Nguma	3,500,000
40.	Mutomo/Kibwea	Syomithumo borehole	3,500,000
		TOTAL AMOUNT	Ksh140.000,000

b. The total number of boreholes which were drilled by the Ministry of Water and Irrigation in the Financial Year 2023/2024.

Hon. Speaker,

The Ministry of Water and Irrigation drilled Twelve (12) boreholes out of the proposed and budgeted Forty (40) boreholes in the Financial Year 2023/2024. They are as follows;

S/NO	BOREHOLE NAME	WARD	VILLAGE	ESTIMATED YIELD (M ³)
1.	Waita Secondary school	Waita	Waita	3
2.	Kitui Showground	Ithookwe	Kyangwithya West	2.4
3.	Kakongo	kakongo	Kiomo/Kyethani	16

4.	Itoleka	Itoleka	Kyangwithya West	6.8
5.	Kyuso Hospital	Kyuso	Kyuso	3
6.	Katumbi Secondary School	Katumbi	Tseikuru	7
7.	Kyangangi primary school	Kyangangi/ Masimba	Kyangangi	10
8.	Kwa Ndungi	Makongeni	Ikutha	20
9.	Myaani 01	Myaani	Athi	3
10.	Myaani 02	Myaani	Athi	2
11.	Mutitu Girls Secondary school	Kitoo	Mutitu/Kaliku	10
12.	Ithookwe/Borehole No. 9	Ithookwe	Kyangwithya West	15

c. The circumstances which led the boreholes not be drilled in some Wards as proposed and funded in the budget for the Financial Year 2023/2024.

Hon. Speaker,

The County Executive Committee Member for Water and Irrigation Mr. Peter Nkunda informed the Committee that the following are the reasons which led the boreholes programme not to be implemented in all wards as initially proposed.

- i. The Ministry moved a total of **Ksh.76 million** allocated for drilling the boreholes to pay electricity bills for Kitui Water and Sanitation Company (KITWASCO) and the Kiambere-Mwingi Water and Sanitation Company (KIMWASCO) since pumping of water had stopped causing acute water shortage in areas served

by the two water companies. This affected the procurement of drilling consumables as planned hence the Ministry could not achieve the target.

ii. Shortage of fuel due to cash flow challenges in the County Government also hampered the drilling programme as it was proposed.

iii. The El Niño rains also affected the drilling programme since the drilling rigs are very heavy weighing Forty Tonnes (40 T) and the rains extended for a while. The sites were only accessible in February to mid- March 2024 before the next April rain season began.

iv. The Ministry's need to raise revenue of at least **Ksh. 1,515,000** as part of Own Source Revenue (OSR) for the County Government through Ministry services also affected the drilling programme. The Ministry had to drill private boreholes which took time that could have been employed in drilling the public boreholes that had been proposed and planned for. This was the only revenue stream available for the Ministry.

d. The strategies /measures which County Ministry of Water and Irrigation is putting in place to ensure effective implementation of the drilling programme as proposed.

Hon. Speaker,

The CECM for Water and Irrigation submitted to the Committee that the following are the measures to be undertaken to ensure effective implementation of the drilling programme as proposed:

i. The Ministry will prioritize the Wards which never benefited in the last Fiscal Year from the boreholes programme in a bid to ensure fair and equitable distribution of resources.

- ii. The Ministry will procure drilling consumables on time to ensure the programme runs smoothly in the Financial Year 2024/2025.
- iii. The Ministry will closely collaborate with Members of County Assembly (MCAs) to ensure smooth and effective execution of all projects and programmes in the Ministry across the 40 Wards.

e. Strategies which the County Ministry is putting in place to ensure the Kyangulu-Nzinia-Mbuini-Kakeani-Iiani water pipeline project in Mutonguni Ward is completed as well as the specific timelines for completion.

Hon. Speaker,

The County Executive Committee Member for Water and Irrigation informed the Committee that the above project is under the National Government and is being implemented by Tanathi Water works Development Agency (TAWWDA).

Hon. Speaker,

The CECM submitted that, according to information which the County Ministry was furnished with by the national water agency, the contract for the water pipeline project was terminated due to under-performance by the contractor. However, the project is scheduled for re-tendering for a new contractor to take up the remaining works.

Hon. Speaker,

The County Executive Committee Member also informed the Committee that he will liaise with TAWWDA to address the stalled project in order to ensure prudent use of public resources.

4.0 COMMITTEE OBSERVATIONS

Hon. Speaker,

The Committee keenly interrogated the submissions from the County Executive Committee Member for Water and Irrigation presented before the Committee and made the following observations;

- i. The Committee observed that majority of the wards did not benefit from the boreholes drilling programme in the financial year 2023/2024. Out of the proposed 40 boreholes, **paltry 12 boreholes** which were drilled covering only **nine (9) wards**. Out of the aforementioned nine wards, **Kyangwithya West** and **Athi** wards got **three (3)** and **two (2)** boreholes respectively.
- i. The Committee also noted out of the twelve (12) drilled boreholes, only **one (1)** borehole (**Showground borehole at Ithookwe, Kyangwithya West Ward**) was equipped and operational. The rest of the water facilities are yet to be equipped thus rendering them ineffective for the communities they are supposed to serve.
- ii. The Committee also observed that the drilled boreholes do not yield sufficient water for the targeted population due to decreased water tables and aquifers compounded by the effects of climate change.
- iii. The Committee also established that a total of **Ksh. 76 million** meant for drilling boreholes was moved to pay electricity bills for KITWASCO and KIMWASCO without authority from the Sectoral Committee.

- iv. The Committee expressed dissatisfaction regarding the location of **Myaani 01** and **Myaani 02** boreholes in **Athi Ward**. The two boreholes were drilled contrary to what was agreed during a public participation meeting. The Committee resolved to undertake an oversight activity to address the concerns surrounding the two boreholes as well as other boreholes drilled in the Financial Year 2023/2024.
- v. The Committee also established that the Kyangulu-Nzinia-Mbuini-Kakeani-Iiani water pipeline project in Mutonguni Ward is under Tanathi Water works Development Agency (TAWWDA) thus the Ministry should fast-track completion of the stalled project.

5.0 COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the above observations, the Committee recommends the following measures to the County Ministry of Water and Irrigation:

- i. The County Ministry of Water and Irrigation should prioritize equipping and operationalizing the already drilled boreholes as well as ensuring each ward benefits from the drilling programme to ensure fair and equitable distribution of public resources.
- ii. The County Ministry of Water and Irrigation should drill boreholes using County drilling rigs which are more cost-effective rather than awarding the tenders to the contractors which is more expensive.
- iii. Moving forward, the Ministry should focus on water harvesting techniques which shall be more impactful and sustainable in the long run rather than drilling additional boreholes due to decreased water aquifers. This has been recognized since the

high percentage of the drilled boreholes do not yield sufficient water.

- iv. The Ministry should work closely in collaboration with Members of County Assembly (MCAs) and all other relevant stakeholders in informing and making consultations regarding any significant budget reallocations or expenditures to ensure smooth and effective execution of all projects and programmes in the Ministry across the Wards.
- v. The Ministry should liaise with Tanathi Water works Development Agency (TAWWDA) on Kyangulu-Nzinia-Mbuini-Kakeani-Iiani water pipeline project in Mutonguni Ward to fast-track completion of the stalled project.

6.0 CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the County Ministry of Water and Irrigation should ensure that all water structures should be done equitably across the wards so as to avoid unfair and unequitable distribution of resources.

Additionally, it is important to equip existing boreholes properly to maximize their benefit to the targeted communities and give value for the money.

Finally, the Ministry should also liaise with Tanathi Water works Development Agency (TAWWDA) to ensure that the stalled water pipeline project in Mutonguni Ward and any other incomplete

project under their mandate in Kitui County is expeditiously completed to ensure efficient and effective use of public resources.

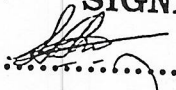
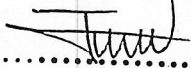


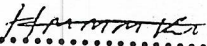



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ANNEX 1: ADOPTION LIST.

We Members of the Committee on Agriculture, Water and Irrigation have adopted this response to statement request by Hon. Benjamin Ndambu Mulandi on the proposed drilling of the boreholes across the County in the Financial Year 2023/2024 and the status of Kyangulu-Nzinia-Mbuini-Kakeani- Iiani water pipeline project in Mutonguni Ward and hereby affix our signatures to affirm our approval and confirm its accuracy, validity and authenticity; -

NAME	DESIGNATION	SIGNATURE
1. Hon. Anthony Musyimi Musyoka	Chairperson	
2. Hon. Joseph Musyoka Mbite	Vice-Chairperson	
3. Hon. Christopher Nzilu Nzioka	Member
4. Hon. Sylvester Kitheka Munyalo	Member
5. Hon. Aron Kilonzi Kasele	Member
6. Hon. Immaculate Wanza John	Member	
7. Hon. Bonface Mukwate Katula	Member	
8. Hon. Harrison Maluki Mawia	Member	
9. Hon. Fastina Mwende Solomon Salu	Member	
10. Hon. Jacquelyne Cate Kalenga	Member	
11. Hon. Muthama Musyoka Kieti	Member	

The Department of Defense is currently reviewing the proposed changes to the Department's security policies. The review is being conducted in accordance with the requirements of the National Security Agency (NSA) and the Department of State. The proposed changes are intended to improve the Department's ability to protect its information and resources from unauthorized access and disclosure. The review is expected to be completed by the end of the fiscal year.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

1. The proposed changes to the Department's security policies are being reviewed in accordance with the requirements of the NSA and the Department of State. The review is being conducted in accordance with the requirements of the NSA and the Department of State.

2. The proposed changes are intended to improve the Department's ability to protect its information and resources from unauthorized access and disclosure. The review is expected to be completed by the end of the fiscal year.

3. The proposed changes are being reviewed in accordance with the requirements of the NSA and the Department of State. The review is being conducted in accordance with the requirements of the NSA and the Department of State.

4. The proposed changes are intended to improve the Department's ability to protect its information and resources from unauthorized access and disclosure. The review is expected to be completed by the end of the fiscal year.

5. The proposed changes are being reviewed in accordance with the requirements of the NSA and the Department of State. The review is being conducted in accordance with the requirements of the NSA and the Department of State.

6. The proposed changes are intended to improve the Department's ability to protect its information and resources from unauthorized access and disclosure. The review is expected to be completed by the end of the fiscal year.

7. The proposed changes are being reviewed in accordance with the requirements of the NSA and the Department of State. The review is being conducted in accordance with the requirements of the NSA and the Department of State.