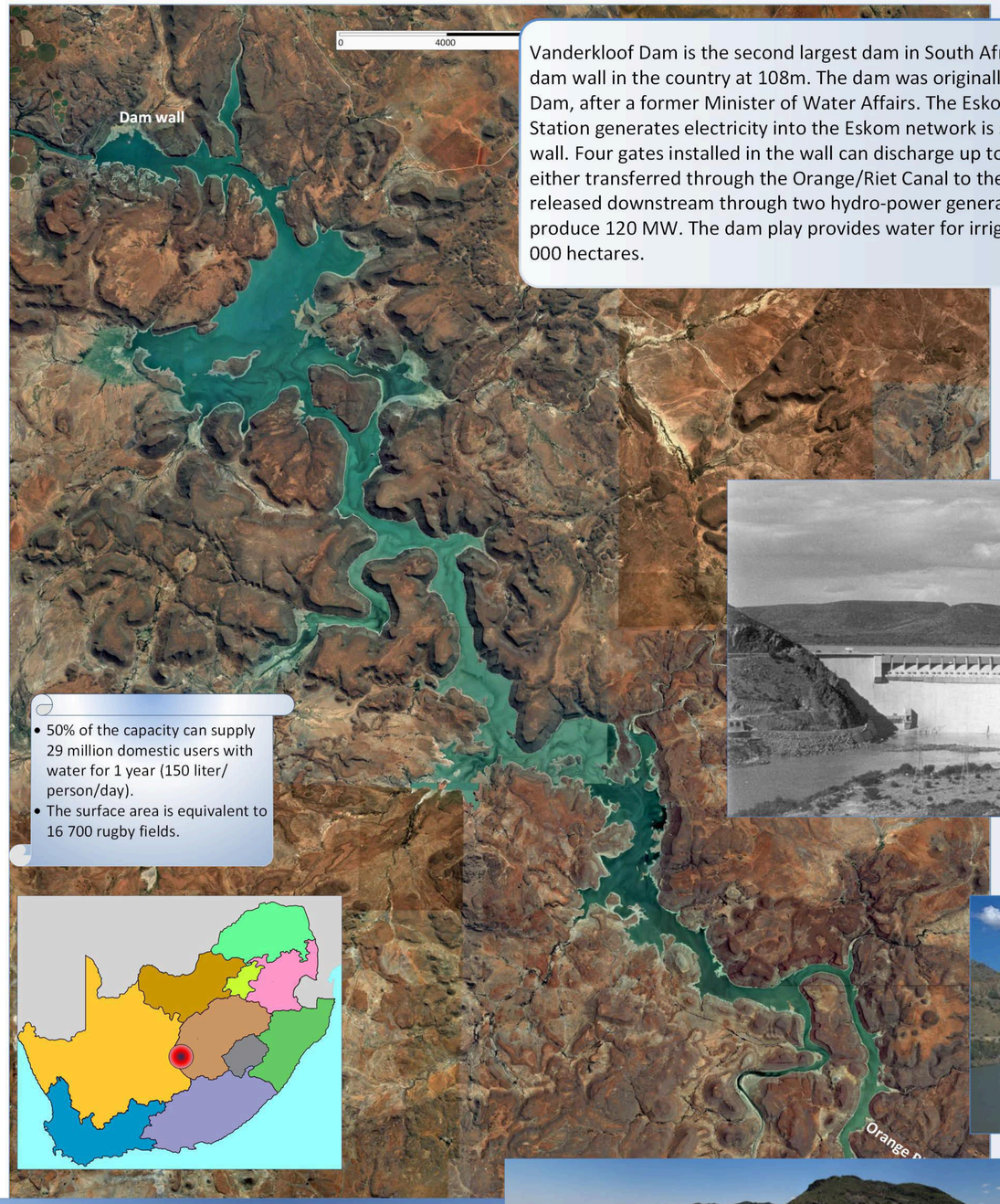
WATERINFO: South African Dams: **VAN DER KLOOF DAM**

WAM TECHNOLOGY

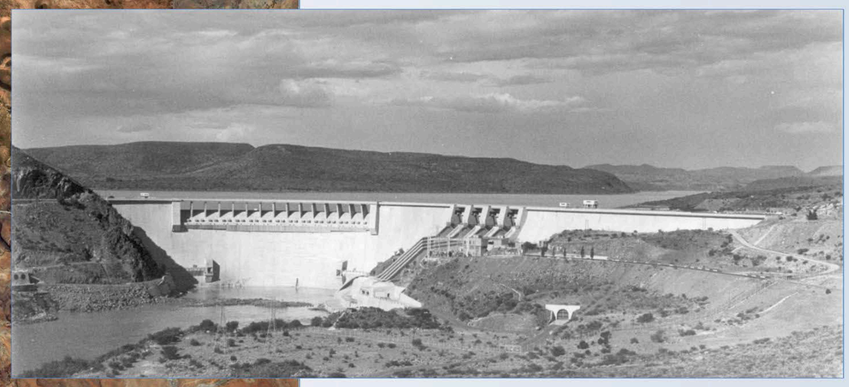
Factsheet WID13



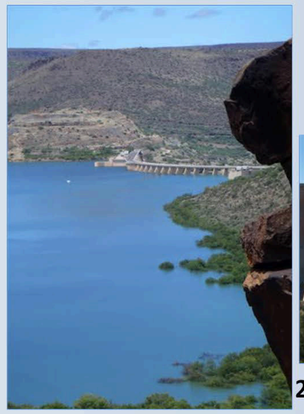
Vanderkloof Dam is the second largest dam in South Africa, boasting the highest dam wall in the country at 108m. The dam was originally named the P.K. le Roux Dam, after a former Minister of Water Affairs. The Eskom Hydroelectric Power Station generates electricity into the Eskom network is situated within the dam wall. Four gates installed in the wall can discharge up to 8 500 m^3/s. Water is either transferred through the Orange/Riet Canal to the Riet River basin or released downstream through two hydro-power generators, each capable to produce 120 MW. The dam play provides water for irrigation to more than 100 000 hectares.

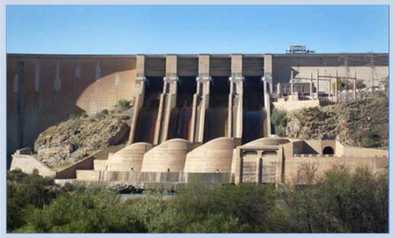
- 50% of the capacity can supply 29 million domestic users with water for 1 year (150 liter/ person/day).
- The surface area is equivalent to 16 700 rugby fields.

During construction (1974)



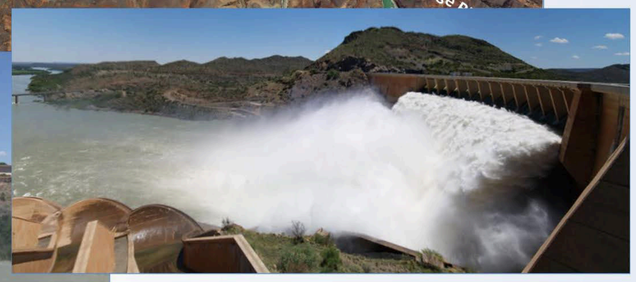
1978





2011 (panaramio.co.)

2011 (panaramio.co.)



January 2011

(Herman Erasmus, http://www.panoramio.com/photo/46646789)

VANDERKLOOF DAM (29.99222 S; 24.73167 E)

Completed: **1977**	River: **Orange River.**	Capacity: **3187.5 million m^3**
Type of dam: **Concrete gravity-arch dam.**		
Length of wall (top): **765 m**	Length of dam (longest distance from wall to inflow): **70 km**	
Nearest town: **Vanderkloof**	Surface area: **13 340 ha**	
Water use: **Domestic, irrigation and hydro-electricity.**		
Capacity compared to The Gariep Dam, 130 km upstream: **60 %**		

References, literature and photos:
References: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vanderkloof_Dam; https://www.vanderkloofdam.co.za
Photos: DWA