



- 50% of the capacity can supply > 1.5 million domestic users with water for 1 year (150 liter/ person/day).
- The surface area is equivalent to 1,900 rugby fields.



Feeder channel from the Klein Berg River



View to SW



Irrigation channel near Gouda.



VOëLVLEI DAM (33.336257 S; 19.036484 E)

Completed: 1971

River: Mountain streams, Klein Berg and Vier-en-Twintig Rivers.

Capacity: 168 million m³

Type of dam: Earth fill.

Length of wall (top): 2910 m

Length of dam (longest distance from wall to inflow): 7.5 km

Nearest town: GOUDA

Surface area: 1524 ha

Water use: Municipal & Irrigation.

Capacity compared to the Theewaterskloof Dam: 35%



View to NE



View to SE



View to the West

The history of Voëlvlei Dam, located near Gouda, dates back for a thousand years or more. The dam has a large natural depression which collects water from the mountains located on the eastern side of the dam.

Since 1734 the farm on which Voëlvlei Dam is situated belonged to the Walters family. The farm include the mountain and cut right through the middle of the dam. In 1948 the government, expropriated the farm for the Bergriver Irrigation Scheme. The state paid compensation to the Walters family in the amount of £44,000. The Walters family never agreed to sell or ever signed a contract. Since 1950 till 2010 the Walters family had a long-standing dispute with the government. Since the land was expropriated in 1948 by the Union of South Africa the land was transferred into the name of the Republic of South Africa in 1961. It currently still belongs to the Republic of South Africa under Title deed 20006/1948.



References: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Voëlvlei_Dam

Photos: DWS; WAMTechnology; Francois Swanepoel – 2014 (<http://www.artefacts.co.za/main/Buildings/>)