

A GENERIC WATER BALANCE FOR THE SOUTH AFRICAN COAL MINING INDUSTRY

W Pulles • RH Boer • S Nel

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Water Research Commission



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by

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“A generic water balance for the South African coal mining industry”**

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February 2001

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. INTRODUCTION

In order to be able to plan research initiatives and to have benchmarks against which mine water management on coal mines could be measured, a need was identified to develop a generic water balance for the coal mining industry. When the research project was undertaken, there were sixty-five operating coal mines of various sizes in South Africa. A total of forty-one mines have been included in the database used in this investigation, which represents 66% of the total number of operating coal mines in South Africa. In terms of the run-of-mine total production, this investigation included mines that represented 88% of the total coal production in South Africa.

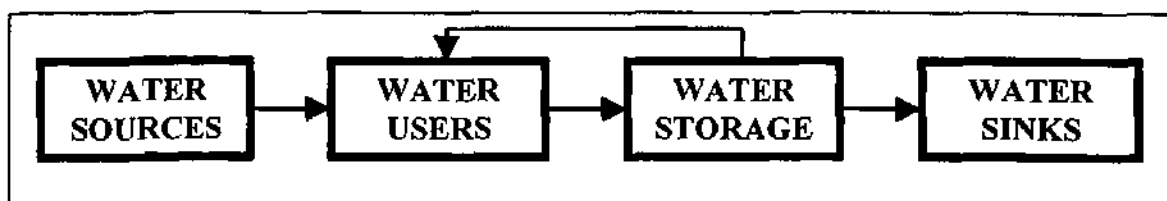
The development of an industry-wide water balance enables the mines, authorities and other role players to set some benchmarks that can be used to evaluate the water management performance of individual mines. It was also felt that the development of such an industry-wide water balance would assist in informing future research priorities.

2. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

A generic water balance was developed for the following types of coal mining operations:

- Open cast with beneficiation plant.
- Open cast without beneficiation plant.
- Underground bord and pillar with beneficiation plant.
- Underground bord and pillar mine without beneficiation plant.
- Underground total extraction mine with beneficiation plant.
- Open cast and underground bord and pillar mining with beneficiation plants.
- Open cast and underground bord and pillar mining without beneficiation plants.

The prepared water balances have been devised to be both sufficiently generic to be of use for a wide range of mines and sufficiently detailed to show useful information. In a generic sense, the overall balance has been constructed on the basis of a 4-stage process as shown schematically below.



The various water sources that are considered are:

- Board water
- River water
- Ground water (either through boreholes or ingress into mine workings)
- Rain water
- Unspecified sources (unspecified combination of the above)

Water users that are considered in the generic balance are:

- Potable water treatment plant (treating river or ground water)
- Domestic water users (drinking and ablution water in houses, hostels, offices, plant and mine, but excluding industrial users of potable water)
- Sewage treatment plant
- Irrigation of treated sewage
- Mine workings (underground or open pit)
- Beneficiation plant
- Slurry dam
- Road wetting for dust suppression

Provision is made for intermediate storage of the following types of water:

- Potable water
- Treated sewage
- Dirty water (including water pumped from mine workings, plant process water, slurry dam return water, contaminated stormwater, etc.)

Sinks for discharged water are:

- Human consumption
- Surface water on coal product and coarse discard
- Discharge to rivers
- Evaporation
- Discharge to unspecified sinks (unspecified combination of all of the above plus ground water)

This project was severely hampered by the following:

1. Reluctance of mines to provide data, resulting in repeated requests for information.
2. Generally inadequate water balances provided by mines, requiring extensive manipulation of data by the project team and resulting in large percentages of unspecified water sources and sinks.

3. DISCUSSION OF RESULTS

The overall summary water balance for the coal mining industry (based on the survey mines) is shown in Figure I below, with a more detailed generic water balance shown in Figure II. Summary data is shown in Tables I and II. Similar water balances have been prepared for all the following categories of mining:

- Open cast mines with beneficiation plant.
- Open cast mines without beneficiation plant.
- Underground bord and pillar mines with beneficiation plant.
- Underground bord and pillar mines without beneficiation plant.
- Underground total extraction mines with beneficiation plant.
- Open cast and underground bord and pillar mines with beneficiation plants.
- Open cast and underground bord and pillar mines without beneficiation plants.
- All mines located in the Olifants River catchment.
- All mines located in the Vaal River catchment.

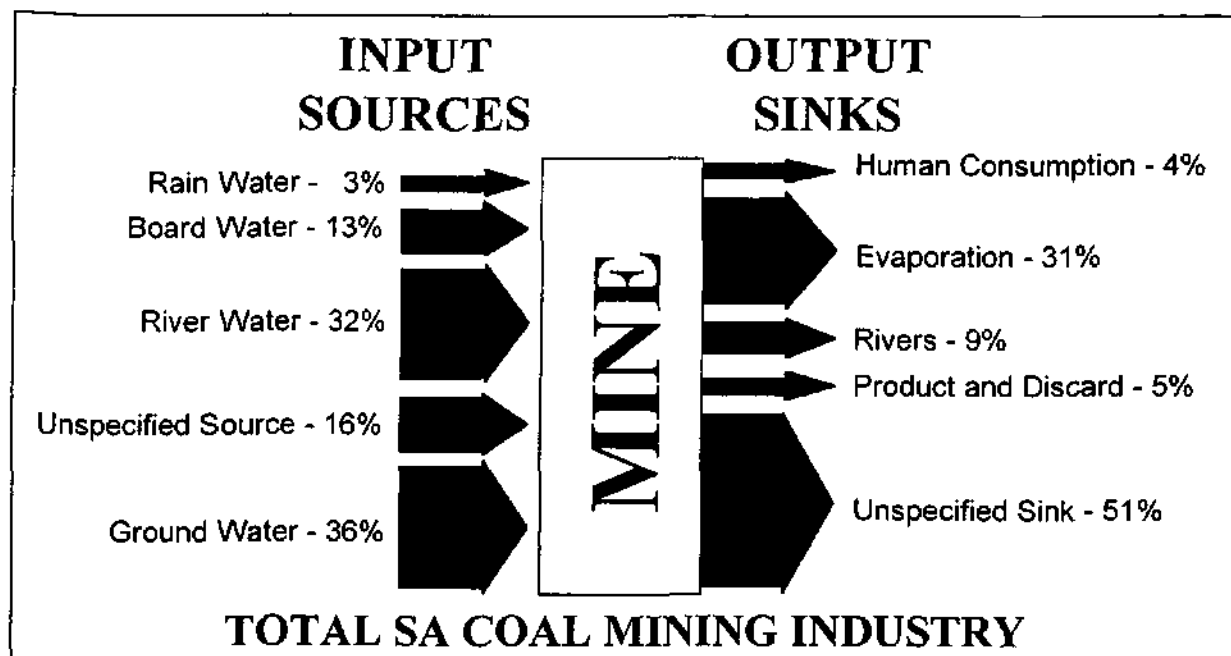


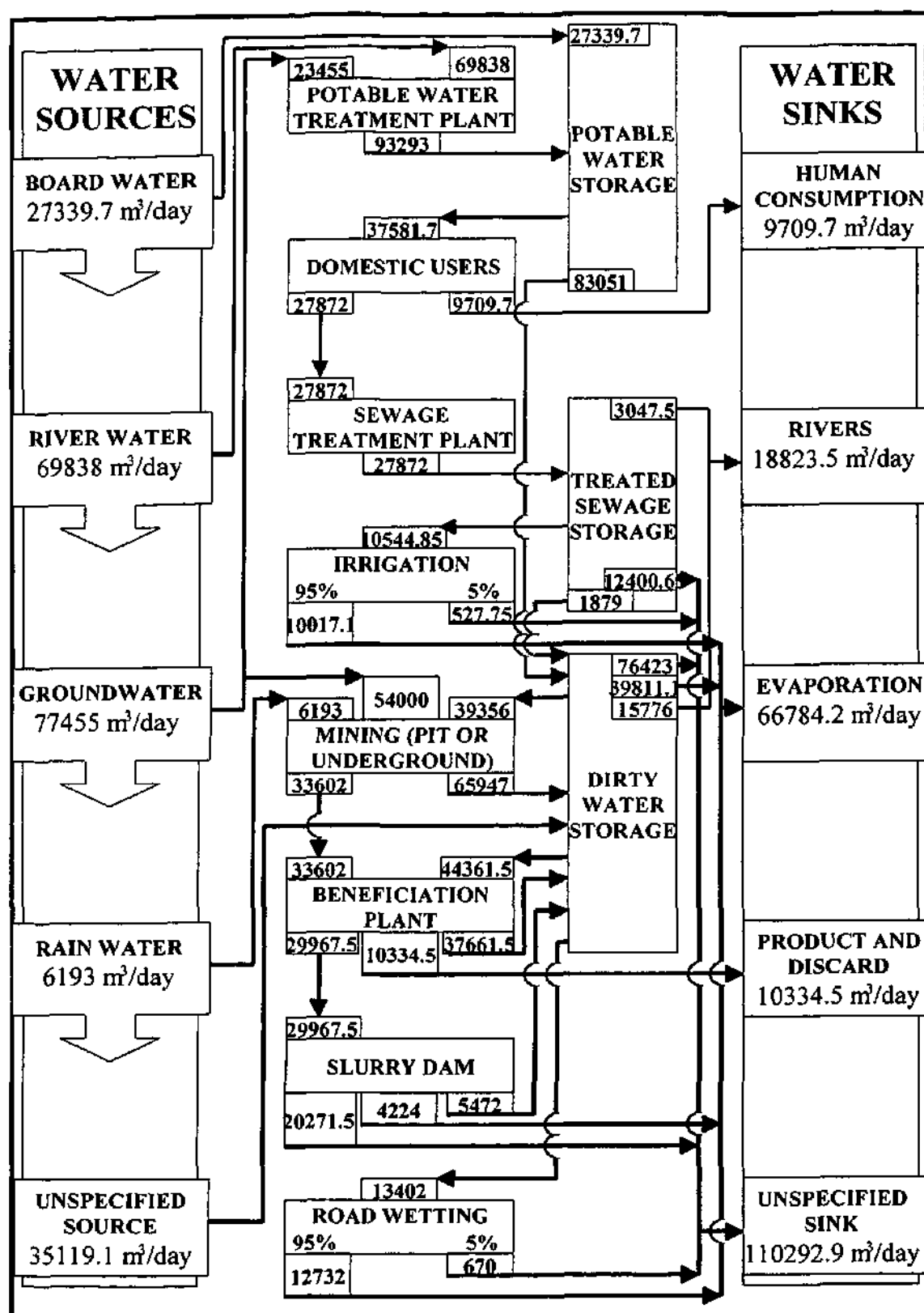
Figure I: Summary water balance for the South African coal mining industry

The overall water balance for the South African coal mining industry indicates that on average, 133 l of water is used for each ton of coal that is mined. A large percentage, approximately 85%, use underground or pit water as a water source compared to some 57% that extract board water as a water source. Volumetrically, the primary source of water came from ground water and river water, contributing 35.9% and 32.3% respectively. Board water as a primary source, contributed 12.7% of the total water source.

Beneficiation plants consumed the largest portion, *i.e.* 36.1%, of the water used by the industry, compared to mining operations that used 25% of the available water. Six percent of the total water consumed by the coal mining industry was used for road wetting. Approximately 31% of the available potable water is used for domestic purposes, with 18.8% of the latter volume of water actually being consumed.

Only ten mines, *i.e.* 25% of the total number of mines, have included seepage as a parameter in water balance calculations, creating the erroneous perception that seepage from coal mines is not a problem. This omission reflects, among others, the lack of detail contained in water balances produced by the majority of mines. In general, the water balances provided by the mines suffer from a lack of detail, *e.g.* 40% have not included evaporation in their water balance.

The incompleteness of water balances on South African coal mines is reflected in the large percentage, *i.e.* 51.1%, of effluent being discharged into unspecified sinks. These unspecified sinks could include loss of water that is difficult to quantify, such as ground water, but could also indicate a lack of good water balance information for each individual mine. In general, water is lost in the following manners: human consumption – 4.5%; rivers – 8.7%; evaporation – 30.9%; and water lost as moisture with the coal and discard material – 4.8%.



All values in m³/day

Figure II: Overall generic water balance for the South African coal mining industry

Table I: Summary of water sources data for all survey mines

Stream	Opencast with beneficiation plant	Opencast without beneficiation plant	Underground bord&pillar with beneficiation plant	Underground bord&pillar without beneficiation plant	Total extraction with beneficiation plant	Opencast and bord&pillar with beneficiation plant	Opencast and bord&pillar without beneficiation plant	TOTAL SURVEY MINES
Coal production (t/d)	159056	1168333	130650	6167	833	137693	26052	1628784
No of mines	8	2	13	3	1	11	3	41
BOARD WATER								
Volume (m ³)	2537	1205	18336	0	0	3576	1686	27340
% of budget	4	8	25	0	0	7	48	13
Specific usage (l/t)	15.95	1.03	140.34	0	0	25.97	64.72	16.79
RAIN WATER								
Volume (m ³)	2106	1377	0	0	0	2710	0	6193
% of budget	3	9	0	0	0	6	0	3
Specific usage (l/t)	13.24	1.18	0	0	0	19.68	0	3.80
RIVER WATER								
Volume (m ³)	18824	10822	15427	90	3500	20673	502	69838
% of budget	31	68	21	10	31	42	14	32
Specific usage (l/t)	118.35	9.26	118.08	14.59	4201.68	150.14	19.27	42.88
GROUND WATER								
Volume (m ³)	26726	2442	30004	828	1300	15914	241	77455
% of budget	45	15	40	88	11	33	7	36
Specific usage (l/t)	168.03	2.09	229.65	134.26	1560.60	115.58	9.25	47.55
UNSPECIFIED SOURCES								
Volume (m ³)	10495	0	10838	25	6540	6146	1075	35119
% of budget	17	0	14	2	58	12	31	16
Specific usage (l/t)	65.98	0	82.95	4.05	7851.14	44.64	41.26	21.56
TOTAL WATER SOURCES								
Volume (m ³)	60688	15846	74605	943	11340	49019	3504	215945
% of budget	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Specific usage (l/t)	381.55	13.56	571.03	152.91	13613.45	356.00	134.50	132.58

An evaluation of the different components of the water balance is presented in the following sections of this chapter. The data shown in Tables I and II clearly indicate that there are two categories of mine that deviate substantially from the average values. The 2 mines classed as opencast without a beneficiation plant account for a large percentage (71.7%) of the overall coal production but exhibit an extremely low water usage based on supplied data. On the other hand, the single total extraction mine with a beneficiation plant has a very small coal production but an extremely high water usage. If the data for these three mines are excluded then the average data for all the survey mines changes substantially as shown below:

- Average specific board water usage changes from 16.79 l/t to 56.86 l/t
- Average specific rain water usage changes from 3.80 l/t to 10.48 l/t
- Average specific river water usage changes from 42.88 l/t to 120.79 l/t
- Average specific ground water usage changes from 47.55 l/t to 160.38 l/t
- Average water usage from unspecified sources changes from 21.56 l/t to 62.18 l/t
- Average human consumption of water changes from 5.96 l/t to 18.94 l/t
- Average water discharge to river changes from 11.56 l/t to 40.96 l/t
- Average water loss to product and discard moisture changes from 6.34 l/t to 22.48 l/t

- Average evaporative water loss changes from 41.00 l/t to 144.76 l/t
- Average water discharge to unspecified sinks changes from 67.71 l/t to 183.56 l/t
- Average total water usage changes from 132.58 l/t to 410.69 l/t

Table II: Summary of water sinks data for all survey mines

Stream	Opencast with beneficiation plant	Opencast without beneficiation plant	Underground bord&pillar with beneficiation plant	Underground bord&pillar without beneficiation plant	Total extraction with beneficiation plant	Opencast and bord&pillar with beneficiation plant	Opencast and bord&pillar without beneficiation plant	TOTAL SURVEY MINES
Coal production (t/d)	159056	1168333	130650	6167	833	137693	26052	1628784
No of mines	8	2	13	3	1	11	3	41
HUMAN CONSUMPTION								
Volume (m ³)	1005	132	5081	29	875	2297	291	9710
% of budget	2	1	7	3	8	5	8	4
Specific usage (l/t)	6.32	0.11	38.89	4.70	1050.42	16.68	11.17	5.96
DISCHARGE TO RIVERS								
Volume (m ³)	1101	0	6193	61	0	11468	0	18824
% of budget	2	0	8	6	0	23	0	9
Specific usage (l/t)	6.92	0	47.40	9.89	0	83.29	0	11.56
PRODUCT & DISCARD MOISTURE								
Volume (m ³)	6005	0	2219	0	4	2111	0	10334
% of budget	10	0	3	0	0	4	0	5
Specific usage (l/t)	37.75	0	16.98	0	4.81	15.33	0	6.34
EVAPORATION								
Volume (m ³)	36200	153	15295	815	95	11611	2615	66784
% of budget	59	1	21	87	1	24	75	31
Specific usage (l/t)	227.59	0.13	117.07	132.16	114.05	84.33	100.38	41.00
DISCHARGE TO UNSPECIFIED SINKS								
Volume (m ³)	16377	15561	45817	38	10366	21532	598	110293
% of budget	27	98	61	4	91	44	17	51
Specific usage (l/t)	102.96	13.32	350.69	6.16	12444.18	156.38	22.95	67.71
TOTAL SINKS								
Volume (m ³)	60688	15846	74605	943	11340	49019	3504	215945
% of budget	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Specific usage (l/t)	381.55	13.56	571.03	152.91	13613.45	356.00	134.50	132.58

4. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The lack of good water balance data for the survey coal mines makes it impossible to make meaningful conclusions about water usage patterns on the coal mines. The primary conclusions that must be drawn however are the following:

1. In general terms, the state of water balances at coal mines is poor with insufficient detail being provided to enable a proper assessment of the status of water management at these mines. It must, therefore, be concluded (on the basis that one cannot manage what you cannot measure) that there is an equivalent problem with the status of water management on coal mines.

2. The primary problems with the water balances are an inadequate consideration of the effects of seepage and evaporation losses and the effect of rainwater as an input to the water balance.
3. The inadequacy of the water balances is most pronounced with regard to the losses of water from the mine water reticulation systems with 51% of all water losses being unaccounted for.
4. There are a few exceptions to the above generalisations where mines, although not perfect, have made significant effort to develop detailed water balances that are being refined and improved upon on an ongoing basis.
5. The lack of appropriate water balances is believed to be a serious hindrance to effective mine water management that needs to be addressed and remedied as a matter of priority.

No recommendations are made for further studies on water balances at coal mines although the discussion contained in this report should clearly motivate for the mines and authorities to expend considerable more effort in ensuring that proper water (and salt) balances are developed for the mines. A special need can be identified to ensure that the effects of seepage, evaporation and rainwater are included in the water balance. Upgrading of mine water balances is not a research topic and must be undertaken as an operational issue by the mines themselves.

It is believed, however, that mines will benefit greatly from the ready availability of a user-friendly computerised water and salt balance model that is capable of being easily updated as and when mine water reticulation systems change.

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction to the Project

In order to be able to plan research initiatives and to have benchmarks against which mine water management on coal mines could be measured, a need was identified to develop a generic water balance for the coal mining industry. When the research project was undertaken, there were sixty-five operating coal mines of various sizes in South Africa. A total of forty-one mines have been included in the database used in this investigation, which represents 66% of the total number of operating coal mines in South Africa. In terms of the run-of-mine total production, this investigation included mines that represented 88% of the total coal production in South Africa.

The development of an industry-wide water balance enables the mines, authorities and other role players to set some benchmarks that can be used to evaluate the water management performance of individual mines. It was also felt that the development of such an industry-wide water balance would assist in informing future research priorities.

1.2 Research Objectives

This study was undertaken to provide a holistic view of the water use in the South African coal mining industry and to place the water use from coal mining in a regional context where possible. Furthermore, this project was aimed at quantifying and characterizing the use of water, as well as the discharge under various conditions in different catchment areas for the different mining methods. Such an understanding would provide an input to the proper management of water quality, as well as the assessment of hydrological impacts associated with coal mining activities.

A generic water balance was developed for the following types of coal mining operations:

- Open cast with beneficiation plant.
- Open cast without beneficiation plant.
- Underground bord and pillar with beneficiation plant.
- Underground bord and pillar mine without beneficiation plant.
- Underground total extraction mine with beneficiation plant.
- Open cast and underground bord and pillar mining with beneficiation plants.
- Open cast and underground bord and pillar mining without beneficiation plants.

1.3 Research Method

A generic water balance has been prepared for the South African coal mining industry to reflect the industry-wide patterns with regard to water sources, water usage and water disposal. The prepared water balance has been devised to be both sufficiently generic to be of use for a wide range of mines and sufficiently detailed to show useful information. In a generic sense, the overall balance has been constructed on the basis of a 4-stage process as shown schematically in Figure 1 below.

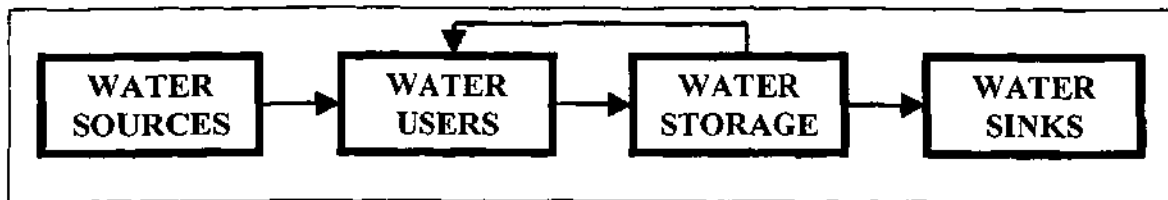


Figure 1: Process for water balance construction

The various water sources that are considered are:

- Board water
- River water
- Ground water (either through boreholes or ingress into mine workings)
- Rain water
- Unspecified sources (unspecified combination of the above)

Water users that are considered in the generic balance are:

- Potable water treatment plant (treating river or ground water)
- Domestic water users (drinking and ablution water in houses, hostels, offices, plant and mine, but excluding industrial users of potable water)
- Sewage treatment plant
- Irrigation of treated sewage
- Mine workings (underground or open pit)
- Beneficiation plant
- Slurry dam
- Road wetting for dust suppression

Provision is made for intermediate storage of the following types of water:

- Potable water
- Treated sewage
- Dirty water (including water pumped from mine workings, plant process water, slurry dam return water, contaminated stormwater, etc.)

Sinks for discharged water are:

- Human consumption
- Surface water on coal product and coarse discard
- Discharge to rivers
- Evaporation
- Discharge to unspecified sinks (unspecified combination of all of the above plus ground water)

The way in which these different components have been arranged into a generic balance diagram is shown in Figure 2 below.

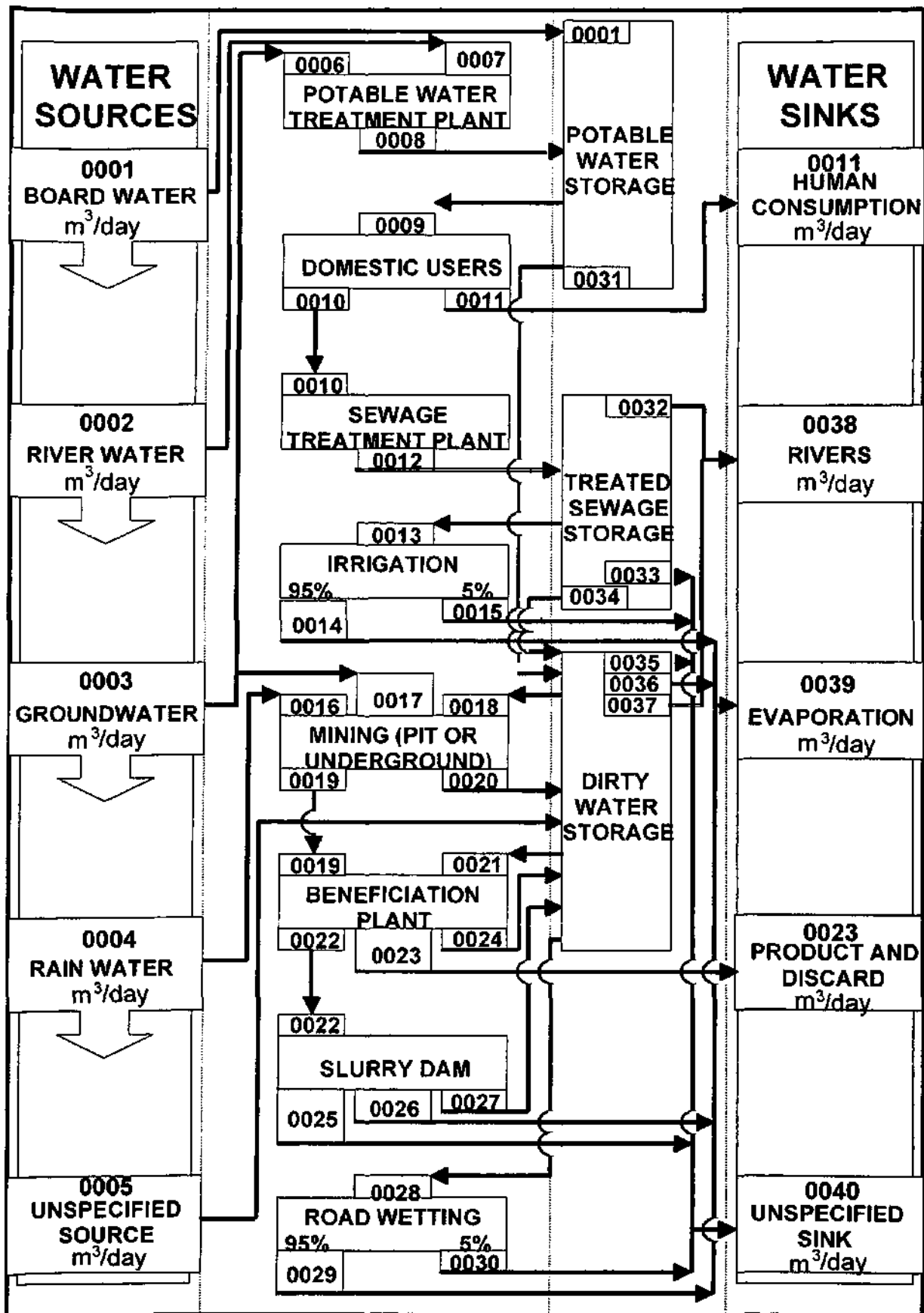


Figure 2: Generic Water Balance Diagram

The individual streams in the generic water balance are described in Table 1.

Table 1: Description of generic water balance streams

STREAM	DESCRIPTION
0001	Total volume of Board and/or potable water taken in by the mine for all uses
0002	Total volume of river water taken in by the mine for all uses
0003	Total volume of ground water taken in by the mine for all uses, including boreholes and ground water entering the mine workings
0004	Total rain water taken in by the mine for all uses, including rain into pits, storage dams and stormwater runoff
0005	Calculated volume of water from unspecified sources required to balance the overall water circuit
0006	Total volume of ground water abstracted for use as potable water – presumed to first require treatment in a potable water treatment plant
0007	Total volume of river water abstracted for use as potable water – presumed to first require treatment in a potable water treatment plant
0008	Total volume of potable water produced by mine's own treatment plants
0009	Total volume of water supplied to domestic water users (drinking and ablution water in houses, hostels, offices, plant and mine, but excluding industrial users of potable water)
0010	Total volume of water treated by the mine's sewage treatment plants (if this is not specified, it is assumed to be equal to 75% of stream 0009)
0011	Total volume of domestic water consumed by users (drinking, garden irrigation, car washing, etc.) – calculated as 0009 – 0010 or if these are not specified, calculated as 25% of stream 0009
0012	Total volume of treated sewage produced by the mine's sewage treatment plants (if this is not specified, it is assumed to be equal to 95% of stream 0010)
0013	Volume of treated sewage used for irrigation of gardens, sports fields, rehabilitated areas, etc.
0014	Calculated as 95% of stream 0013 that is evaporated and evapotranspired
0015	Calculated as 5% of stream 0013 that is discharged to rivers or ground water through runoff
0016	Total amount of rain water reported to flow into open pits
0017	Total amount of ground water reported to flow into open pits or underground workings
0018	Total amount of process water sent to mine workings for mining purposes (includes potable water and other water used for mining machines and dust suppression purposes)
0019	Surface moisture associated with ROM coal produced by mine – calculated as 6% of ROM coal
0020	Total water pumped from mine workings (underground or pit) for reuse or discharge
0021	Total amount of water used by beneficiation plant for process purposes (includes potable water used for process, cooling, gland purposes etc.)
0022	Total volume of water in fine discard slurry pumped from plant to slurry dams
0023	Surface moisture associated with washed product and coarse discard produced by plant – calculated as 6% of mass of washed product and discard
0024	Total amount of contaminated water returned from beneficiation plant to dirty water storage for reuse or discharge (includes contaminate stormwater)
0025	Total volume of water from slurry dam which discharges directly into unspecified sinks such as river or ground water (calculated to be equal to stream 0022 – streams (0026 + 0027))
0026	Total volume of water from slurry dam which evaporates (this stream is assumed to be zero if not specified by the mine and will then be included in stream 0025)
0027	Total volume of slurry water recovered as penstock decant and returned to the process water circuits
0028	Volume of water used for road wetting for dust suppression
0029	Calculated as 95% of stream 0028 that is evaporated and evapotranspired
0030	Calculated as 5% of stream 0028 that is discharged to rivers or ground water through runoff
0031	Total volume of potable quality water used for industrial purposes in mine workings or plant
0032	Total volume of treated sewage discharged directly to rivers
0033	Total volume of treated sewage sent to unspecified sinks – calculated as stream 0012 – streams (0013 + 0034)
0034	Total volume of treated sewage water used for industrial purposes in mine workings or plant
0035	Total volume of dirty water discharged to unspecified sinks – calculated as streams (0005 + 0020 + 0024 + 0027 + 0031 + 0034) – streams (0018 + 0021 + 0028 + 0036 + 0037) if not specified by mine
0036	Total volume of dirty water evaporated (this stream is assumed to be zero if not specified by the mine and will then be included in stream 0035)
0037	Total volume of dirty water discharged directly to rivers (this stream is assumed to be zero if not specified by the mine and will then be included in stream 0035)
0038	Total amount of water discharged directly to rivers (calculated as streams 0032 + 0037) – additional water may be discharged to rivers as part of stream 0040
0039	Total amount of water lost to evaporation (calculated as streams 0014 + 0026 + 0029 + 0036) – additional water may be lost to evaporation as part of stream 0040
0040	Total amount of water discharged to unspecified sources (calculated as streams 0015 + 0025 + 0030 + 0033 + 0035) + any other water which is required to balance the circuit

It needs to be emphasized that due to the generally poor water balances provided by the coal mining industry, many of the streams indicated in the above table and the generic water balance are missing from the mine's water balances and have had to be calculated by PHD. A database has been developed where values for streams 0001 to 0041 have been entered for each survey mine.

In order to be able to combine and compare water balance data from large and small mines, the data has been normalised by dividing total volumes of water by ROM (run of mine) coal production (product + discard) to give m^3 water / ton mined. Total volumes of water (in m^3/day) for the whole coal mining industry are also shown.

1.3.1 Collection and use of existing data from water permits and EMPRs

Data for coal mine water use and balances were obtained from EMPRs and water permits from the Departments of Mineral and Energy Affairs and Water Affairs and Forestry.

Data that was obtained from the EMPR's was found to be more useful than that derived from water permits as the water permits did not contain the relevant data required, *i.e.* tonnages produced by the mine, type of mining or the water balance detail required for the database input.

The limited success rate of the data obtained from the Departments of Mineral and Energy Affairs and Water Affairs and Forestry necessitated that the head offices of the various mining groups be contacted to obtain the data that was required for the database.

A coal mine survey questionnaire, as shown in Appendix 1, was sent to the individual mines to obtain data. A very limited response to the questionnaire was obtained from the mines. After a period of delay the questionnaire was resent to the mines, and follow up phone calls were made to the responsible persons on the mines to make sure that the data obtained would be the most up to date data that was available. This approach also yielded a limited response.

A total of forty-one mines' data was eventually obtained by use of a combination of EMPR's and questionnaires. This data was inserted into the database. The number of mines in the database totals forty-one out of a possible sixty-five mines (Department of Mineral and Energy Affairs). This represents 66% of the total number of mines. In terms of run-of-mine production, the survey mines accounted for 88% of the total South African coal production.

1.3.2 Set up of database from the collected data

The data received from the mines were used to develop a water balance per mine by using the generic water balance model described above. Water inputs were characterised and quantified as water from water boards, pumped from rivers / aquifers, fissure influx, *etc.* The uses (*e.g.* cooling, coal washing *etc.*) were categorised and quantified for the various mines, and lastly, the water discharges and losses (evaporation, seepage, *etc.*) were identified, characterised and quantified. No characterisation and quantification exceeds levels of detail provided in the EMPR's.

The database was constructed in a Microsoft Excel workbook where the water inputs could easily be manipulated so that they could be characterised and quantified as water from water boards, pumped from rivers / aquifers, fissure influx, *etc.* The uses (*e.g.* cooling, coal washing

etc.) have been categorised and quantified for the various mines, and lastly the water discharges and losses (evaporation, seepage, *etc.*) have been identified, characterised and quantified. Flow data were entered in S.I. (Standard International) units of m^3/d .

1.3.3 Generation of water balances for each mine

The data was entered as supplied from the collieries and converted to m^3/t run-of-mine produced. This normalisation of data enabled the comparison of collieries producing large tonnage's with smaller collieries as the volume of water usage is dependant on the tonnage mined. The collieries were separated with respect to the type of mining and water catchment areas. The type of mining refers to the mining methods employed and is discussed in 1.3.5.

1.3.4 Identification of problems regarding quality of the data

Data entered into the database was assessed using the descriptive statistics analyses tool pack, a feature in Microsoft Excel. It was not possible to statistically determine the accuracy of the data neither the precision, as the water balance data forwarded provided no indication of the period of monitoring. The data was analysed using the variance to determine statistical accuracy and was found to be questionable. Rainfall and river data both had a large variance. This is mainly due to the fact that a large proportion of the collieries failed to report rainfall and or river data. Similar inconsistencies are present for water influents, water users and effluent sinks.

In situations where underground mining activities formed part of the water balance, the component associated with underground mining was considered to be recirculated water. The motivation for this assumption emanated from the experience gained from manipulation of a few of the more complete water balances.

1.3.5 Categories of mining activities

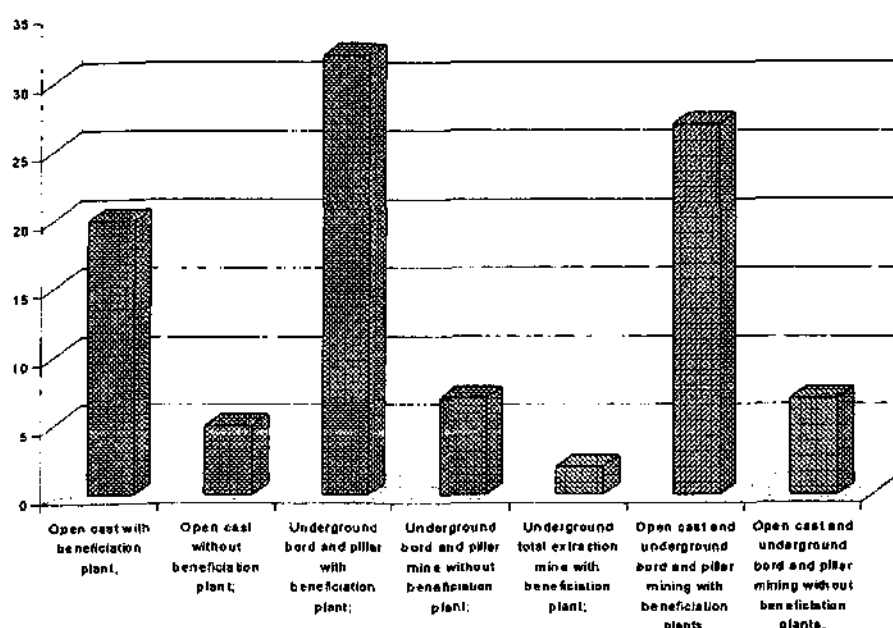
Water balances were performed on the following categories of mines:

- Open cast with beneficiation plant,
- Open cast without beneficiation plant;
- Underground bord and pillar with beneficiation plant;
- Underground bord and pillar mine without beneficiation plant;
- Underground total extraction mine with beneficiation plant;
- Open cast and underground bord and pillar mining with beneficiation plants.
- Open cast and underground bord and pillar mining without beneficiation plants.

The number of participating mines in each category, as well as the proportional percentage of the total number of mines that participated in the survey are listed in Table 2 and presented in Figure 3.

Table 2: Summary of data collected

Mine Type	No. of Mines	% of total
Open cast with beneficiation plant	8	20
Open cast without beneficiation plant	2	5
Underground bord and pillar with beneficiation plant	13	32
Underground bord and pillar mine without beneficiation plant	3	7
Underground total extraction mine with beneficiation plant	1	2
Open cast and underground bord and pillar mining with beneficiation plants	11	27
Open cast and underground bord and pillar mining without beneficiation plants	3	7
	41	100

**Figure 3: Number of survey mines per category**

1.4 Report Structure

Following the introductory chapter in which the motivation for the project is presented, the data input to the database and manipulation of the data for the various scenarios for the generic water balances for the different types of coal mining operations are discussed in Chapters 2 to 8. A summary discussion of differences between the different types of mining is given in Chapter 9. Chapter 10 compares the data for mines in the Olifants River catchment with those in the Vaal River catchment. The construction of a generic water balance for all the survey mines is presented in Chapter 11, together with a more detailed comparison of water use and discharge patterns between the different types of mining. The conclusions and recommendations are presented in Chapter 12.

2. WATER BALANCE FOR OPEN CAST MINES WITH BENEFICIATION PLANTS

A summary of the overall volumes of water associated with open cast mining operations that include a beneficiation plant are shown in Figure 4 while a more detailed generic water balance is shown in Figure 5. The number of mines present in this category forms 20% of the mines in the total database. The total production of the eight mines that form part of this category amounts to 159 056 t/d. A total of 381 l of water is required for each ton of coal mined and is derived as follows:

- 16 l/t board water
- 118 l/t river water
- 168 l/t ground water
- 13 l/t rain water
- 66 l/t of water derived from an unspecified source

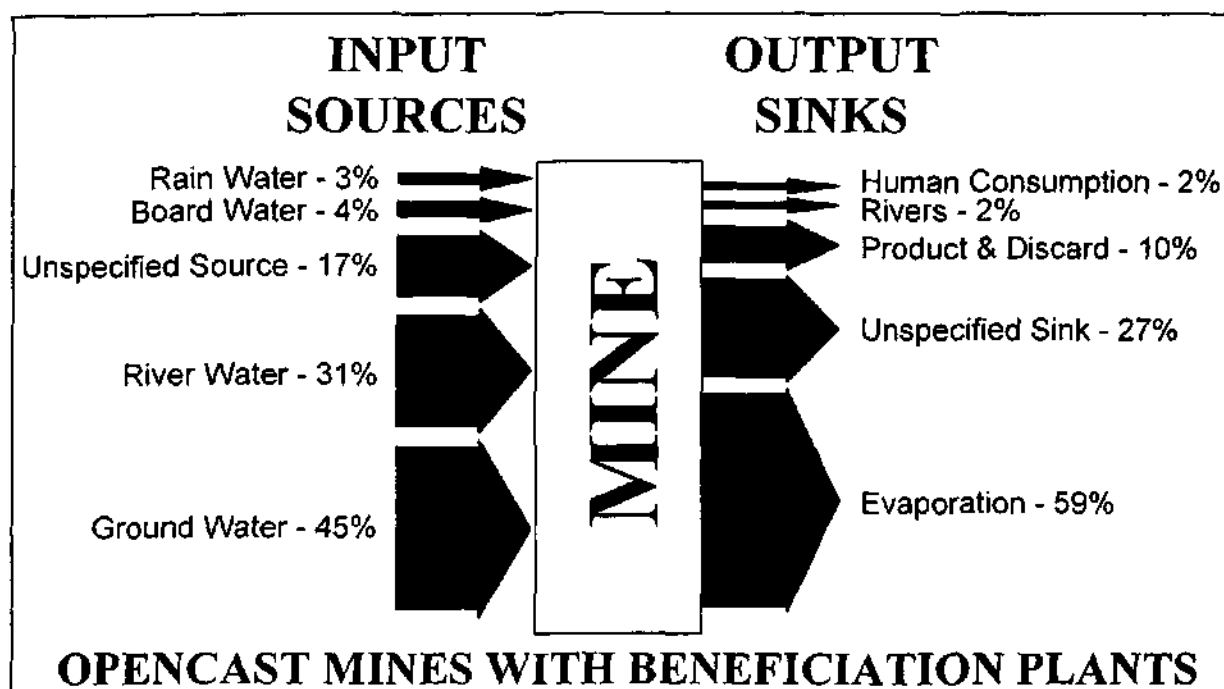
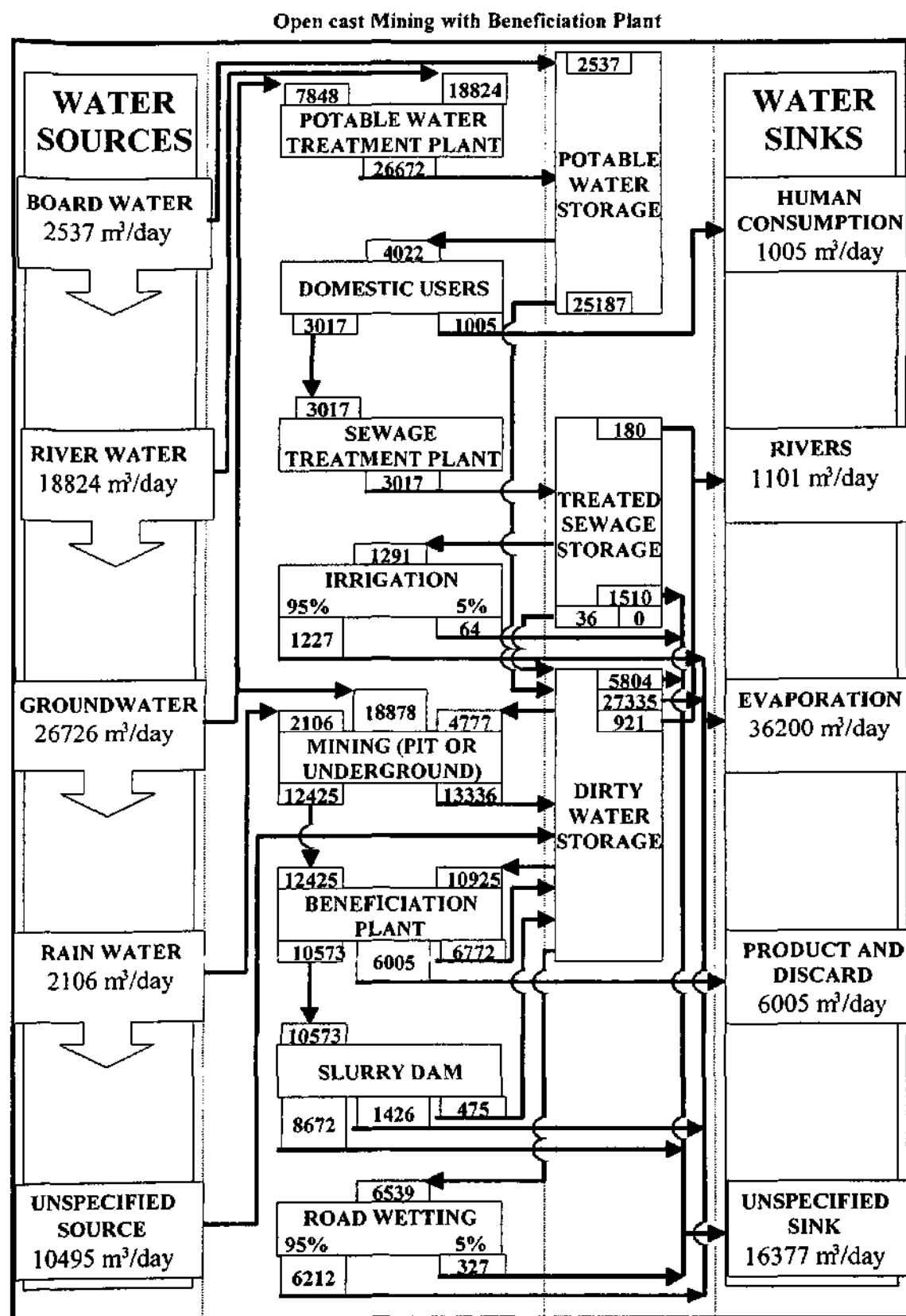


Figure 4: Summary water balance for open cast mines with beneficiation plants

The total volume of water associated with this particular type of mining operation is 60 688 m³/d. These figures indicate that the dominant sources of water for the eight mines included in this category are ground water (45%), river water (31%), and board water (4%).

Domestic users consume 1.7% of the total water budget. The treated sewage effluent is mainly used for irrigation (42.8%), whereas only 1.2% is recycled back into the system. Six percent of the treated sewage effluent is released into the river system. In total 1.8% of the total water budget is released into the river systems, i.e. 7 l/t, whereas the bulk of the water evaporates (59%). Water lost to evaporation amounts to 229 l/t of coal mined. Approximately 10% of the water is lost as surface moisture with the product and discard material from the beneficiation plant. Water required for the open cast mining operations amount to 42% of the



All values in m³/day

Figure 5: Overall generic water balance for open cast mines with beneficiation plants

total water budget. Mining operations and the beneficiation plant recycle approximately 26% of the total water balance.

Eleven percent of the water available is used for road wetting and dust suppression. No account could be given for 17% of the water sources. Furthermore, 27% of the water is being discharged into unspecified sinks, which may include any of those sinks shown in Figure 4. These large percentages of unspecified water sources and water sinks raise concerns regarding the completeness of the water balances provided by the individual mines. Data for the 8 individual mines that form part of this category are presented in Appendix 2.

Table 3: Summary of the statistics for open cast mines with beneficiation plants

Water Sources, Uses & Sinks	Stream	Average (m ³ /day)	Minimum (m ³ /day)	Maximum (m ³ /day)	Ave. %	Min. %	Max. %
Board water source	001	634	53	1544	25	2	61
River water source	002	3137	408	5170	17	2	27
Groundwater source	003	3341	127	7870	13	0	29
Rain water source	004	702	565	877	33	27	42
Unspecified source	005	2624	1060	4935	25	10	47
Potable Treatment Plant	006	3924	3000	4848	50	38	62
Potable Treatment Plant	007	3137	408	5170	17	2	27
Potable Treatment Plant	008	3810	623	5256	14	2	20
Domestic Users	009	575	30	1544	14	1	38
Domestic Users	010	431	23	1158	14	1	38
Human Consumption Sink	011	144	7	386	14	1	38
Sewage Treatment Plant (users)	012	431	23	1158	14	1	38
Irrigation (users)	013	323	23	623	25	2	48
Irrigation (users)	014	307	22	592	25	2	48
Irrigation (users)	015	16	1	31	25	2	48
Mining (Pit or Underground)	016	702	565	877	33	27	42
Mining (Pit or Underground)	017	2360	127	7870	13	1	42
Mining (Pit or Underground)	018	955	23	1930	20	0	40
Mining (Pit or Underground)	019	1553	168	3450	13	1	28
Mining (Pit or Underground)	020	1667	23	5045	13	0	38
Beneficiation Plant (users)	021	3642	1764	5031	33	16	46
Beneficiation Plant (users)	022	1322	160	2565	13	2	24
Product & Discard Sink	023	751	8	2943	13	0	49
Beneficiation Plant (users)	024	1693	1220	2217	25	18	33
Slurry Dam (users)	025	1239	160	2565	14	2	30
Slurry Dam (users)	026	1426	1426	1426	100	100	100
Slurry Dam (users)	027	475	475	475	100	100	100
Road Wetting (users)	028	1090	360	2976	17	6	46
Road Wetting (users)	029	1035	342	2827	17	6	46
Road Wetting (users)	030	55	18	149	17	6	46
Potable Water Storage (users)	031	3598	623	5208	14	2	21
Treated Sewage Storage (users)	032	180	180	180	100	100	100
Treated Sewage Storage (users)	033	378	60	540	25	4	36
Treated Sewage Storage (users)	034	36	36	36	100	100	100
Dirty Water Storage (users)	035	2902	1887	3917	50	33	67
Dirty Water Storage (users)	036	3417	360	8805	13	1	32
Dirty Water Storage (users)	037	921	921	921	100	100	100
Rivers Sink	038	1101	1101	1101	100	100	100
Evaporation Sink	039	4525	360	9575	13	1	26
Unspecified Sink	040	2047	26	4687	13	0	29

Descriptions of the various Streams are summarised in Table 1.

Percentages are expressed relative to the total water budget

3. WATER BALANCE FOR OPEN CAST MINES WITHOUT BENEFICIATION PLANTS

Figure 6 depicts the summary water balance associated with open cast mines operating without a beneficiation plant. A more detailed generic water balance is shown in Figure 7. A total volume of 15 846 m³/d is required by this type of coal mining activity. Given a total production of 1 168 333 t/d, the amount of water required per ton of coal produced is 13.6 l/t. River water is the main source of water, contributing 68% of the total water budget. The river water contributes 9.2 l/t of coal mined, compared to the 2.1 l/t (15%) derived from ground water, 1.1 l/t (9%) from rain water, and 1 l/t (8%) board water.

A total volume of 13 510 m³/d is available as potable water. The percentage that is used for domestic purposes amounts to 3.7% of the potable water budget. Twenty five percent of the domestic water is actually being consumed, i.e. 132 m³/d. Treated sewage is directly dissipated into unspecified sinks, which exclude rivers. No treated sewage is being used for irrigation purposes. The water being used for mining operations in the open pits account for 14.7% of the total water budget.

Less than two percent of the water is lost due to human consumption and evaporation, leaving the largest portion to be discharged into the environment in an unspecified manner. Detailed data for the individual mines that comprise this category are presented in Appendix 2.

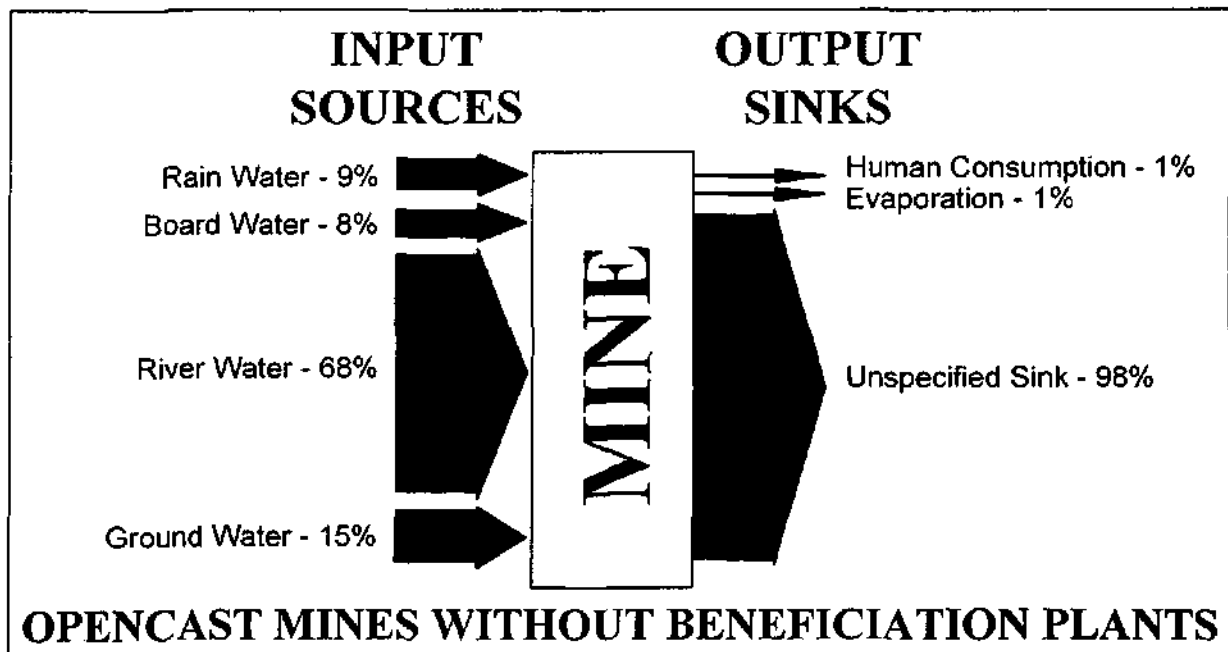


Figure 6: Summary water balance for open cast mines without beneficiation plants

As only two mines were in this category, no table of statistics such as shown in Table 3 has been prepared.

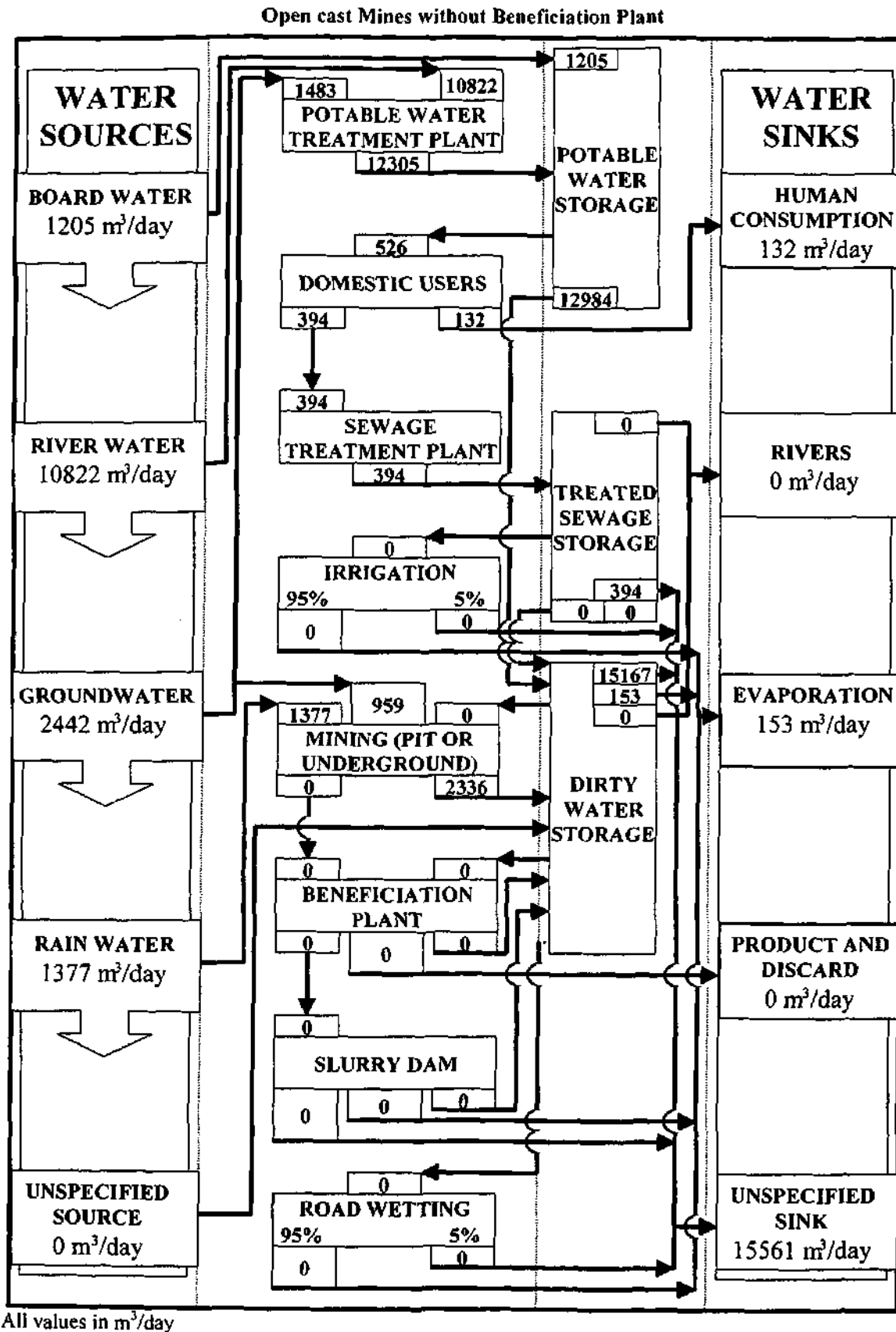


Figure 7: Overall generic water balance for open cast mines without beneficiation plants

4. WATER BALANCE FOR UNDERGROUND BORD & PILLAR MINES WITH BENEFICIATION PLANTS

The summarised water balance for underground mining operations that include beneficiation plants is shown in Figure 8 while a more detailed generic water balance is shown in Figure 9. A total of 13 mines made up this category, producing 130 650 t/d of coal. The total volume of water required amounts to 571 l/t, i.e. 74 605 m³/d. Domestic users require 42.7% of the available potable water, with 25% of the domestic water being consumed. Of the treated sewage, 45.7% is used for irrigation, 6% is being recycled, and 13% is released into the river systems. The remainder of the treated sewage is discharged into unspecified sinks.

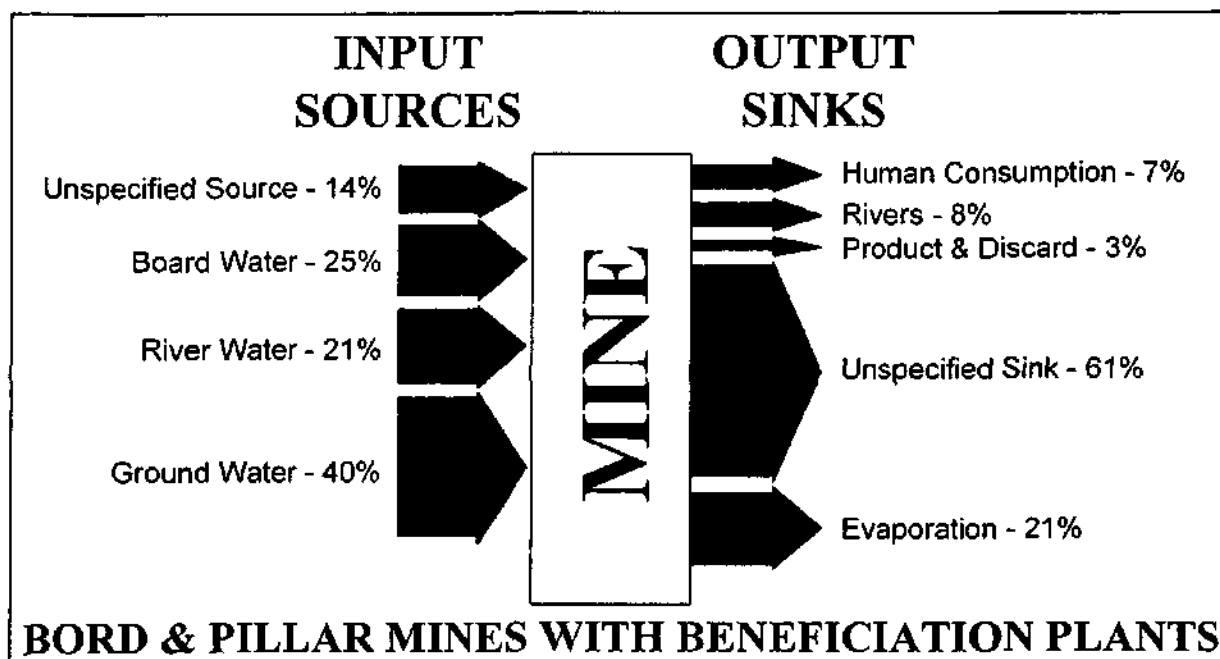
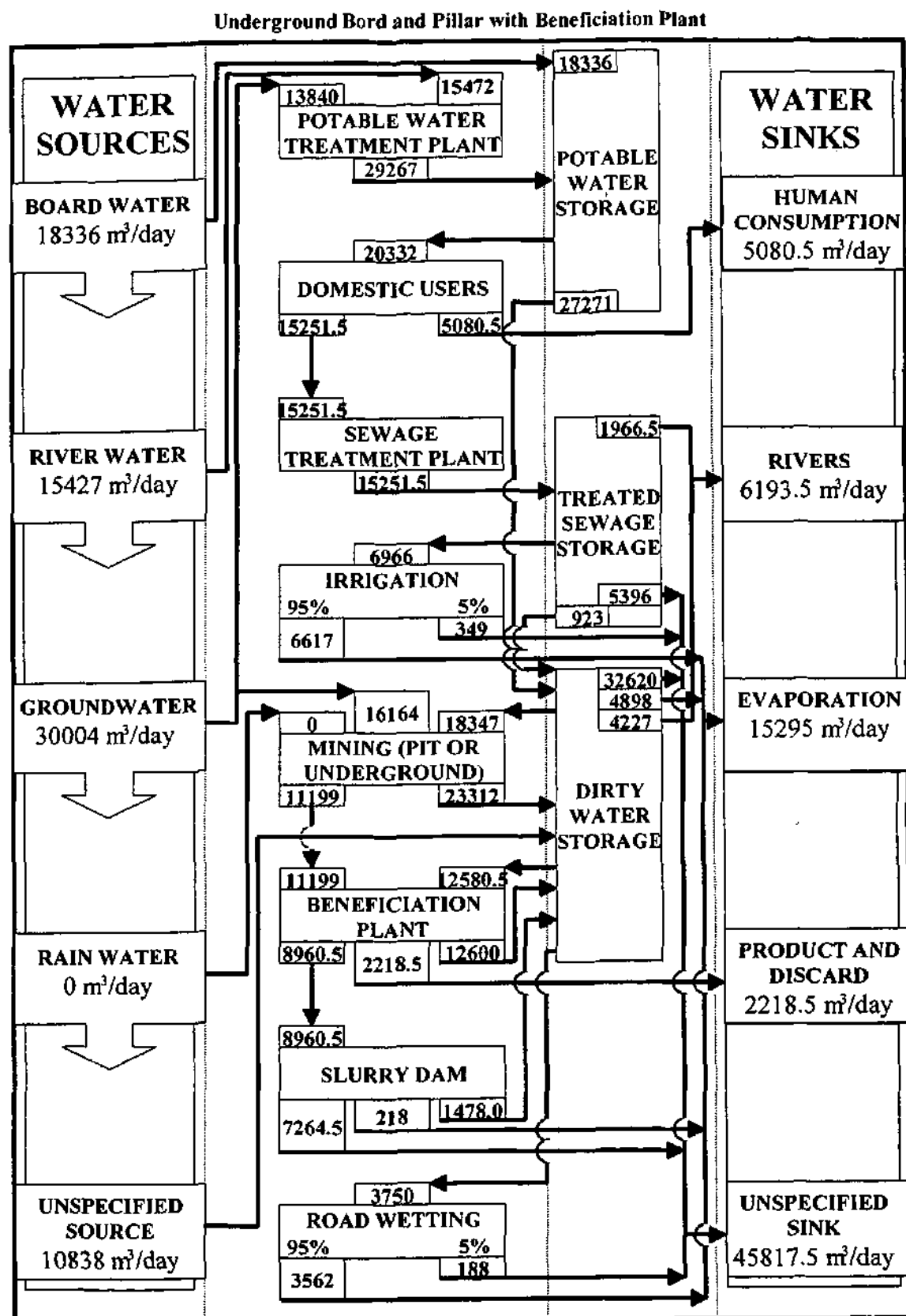


Figure 8: Summary water balance for underground bord & pillar mines with beneficiation plants

Underground mining activities require 34 511 m³/d. Approximately 68% of the water required for underground mining is being recycled. The total volume of water required for the operation of the beneficiation plant amounts to 23 779 m³/d, with 54% being recycled. A total percentage of 8.8% is lost as moisture, together with the product and discard material. A total of 37.7% is being discharged into slurry dams. The volume of decanted water from the slurry dams that is recycled forms 16.4% of the slurry dams water budget. Five per cent of the total water budget is used for road wetting and dust suppression.

The largest portion of water (61.4%) is discharged into unspecified sinks, which could include the ground water system. Twenty per cent of the water evaporates, whereas a total of approximately 8% of the total water budget is being discharged into the river systems. Detailed breakdowns for the 13 individual mines that form part of this category are given in Appendix 2. Variations for the data between the different mines are shown in Table 4.



All values in m³/day

Figure 9: Overall generic water balance for underground bord & pillar mines with beneficiation plants

Table 4: Summary of the statistics for underground bord & pillar mines with beneficiation plants

	Average	Minimum	Maximum	Average %	Minimum %	Maximum %
Stream 001	2619	5	7500	14	0	41
Stream 002	1543	68	3697	10	0	24
Stream 003	2728	432	7754	9	1	26
Stream 004	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stream 005	2710	1016	6440	25	9	59
Stream 006	2307	8	6696	17	0	48
Stream 007	1543	68	3697	10	0	24
Stream 008	2439	11	6950	8	0	24
Stream 009	1564	5	7495	8	0	37
Stream 010	1173	4	5621	8	0	37
Stream 011	391	1	1874	8	0	37
Stream 012	1173	4	5621	8	0	37
Stream 013	2322	10	5621	33	0	81
Stream 014	2206	9	5340	33	0	81
Stream 015	116	1	281	33	0	81
Stream 016	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stream 017	1469	432	3868	9	3	24
Stream 018	1529	68	6440	8	0	35
Stream 019	861	100	4300	8	1	38
Stream 020	1943	50	6440	8	0	28
Stream 021	1573	1	5018	13	0	40
Stream 022	689	43	2203	8	0	25
Stream 023	185	2	886	8	0	40
Stream 024	1800	117	4114	14	1	33
Stream 025	605	25	1615	8	0	22
Stream 026	218	218	218	100	100	100
Stream 027	370	100	778	25	7	53
Stream 028	750	30	3500	20	1	93
Stream 029	712	28	3325	20	1	93
Stream 030	38	2	175	20	1	93
Stream 031	3030	68	6955	11	0	26
Stream 032	492	4	1325	25	0	67
Stream 033	675	9	2625	13	0	49
Stream 034	462	75	848	50	8	92
Stream 035	3262	587	6340	10	2	19
Stream 036	700	34	2709	14	1	55
Stream 037	1057	402	1782	25	10	42
Stream 038	1239	440	3107	20	7	50
Stream 039	1390	34	8665	9	0	57
Stream 040	3524	46	10205	8	0	22

5. WATER BALANCE FOR UNDERGROUND BORD & PILLAR MINES WITHOUT BENEFICIATION PLANTS

A total of three of the survey mines that applied the bord and pillar mining method operated without a beneficiation plant. These data are summarized in Figure 10 while a more detailed water balance is shown in Figure 11. A total volume of 943 m³/d of water is required to produce 6167 t/d, to give a specific water usage of 153 l/t. Ground water is the main water source of water, accounting for 87.8% of the total available water budget. River water contributes only 9.5% as a source of water. No board water is being consumed.

The potable water produced by the treatment plant is mainly used for domestic purposes, i.e. 71%, of which 31.8% is actually consumed. Treated sewage effluent is mainly being discharged into rivers, i.e. 80.6%, whereas no treated sewage is used for irrigation. The volume of water used for underground mining operations amounts to 825 m³/d.

In terms of water sinks, the largest volume of water is lost through evaporation, i.e. 86.4%. The remainder of the water is discharged into rivers (6.5%) and lost through domestic consumption (3.1%). Four per cent of effluent is discharged into unspecified sinks.

Detailed water balance data of the three mines in this category are summarized in Appendix 2.

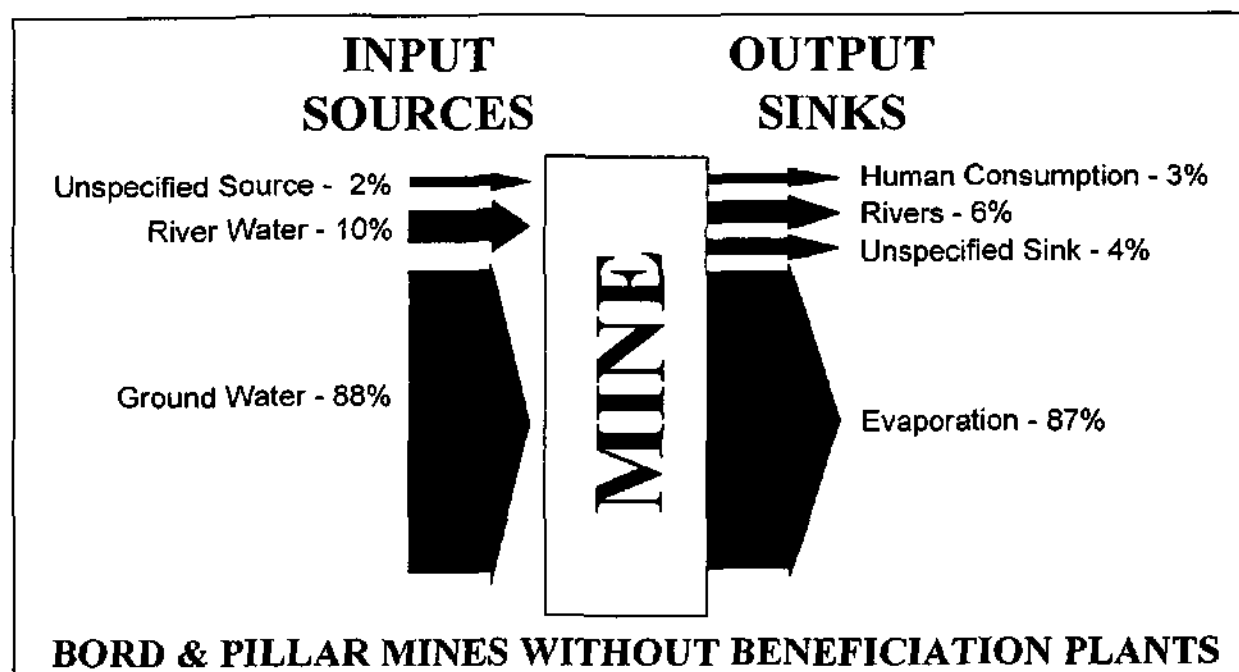


Figure 10: Summary water balance for underground bord & pillar mines without beneficiation plants

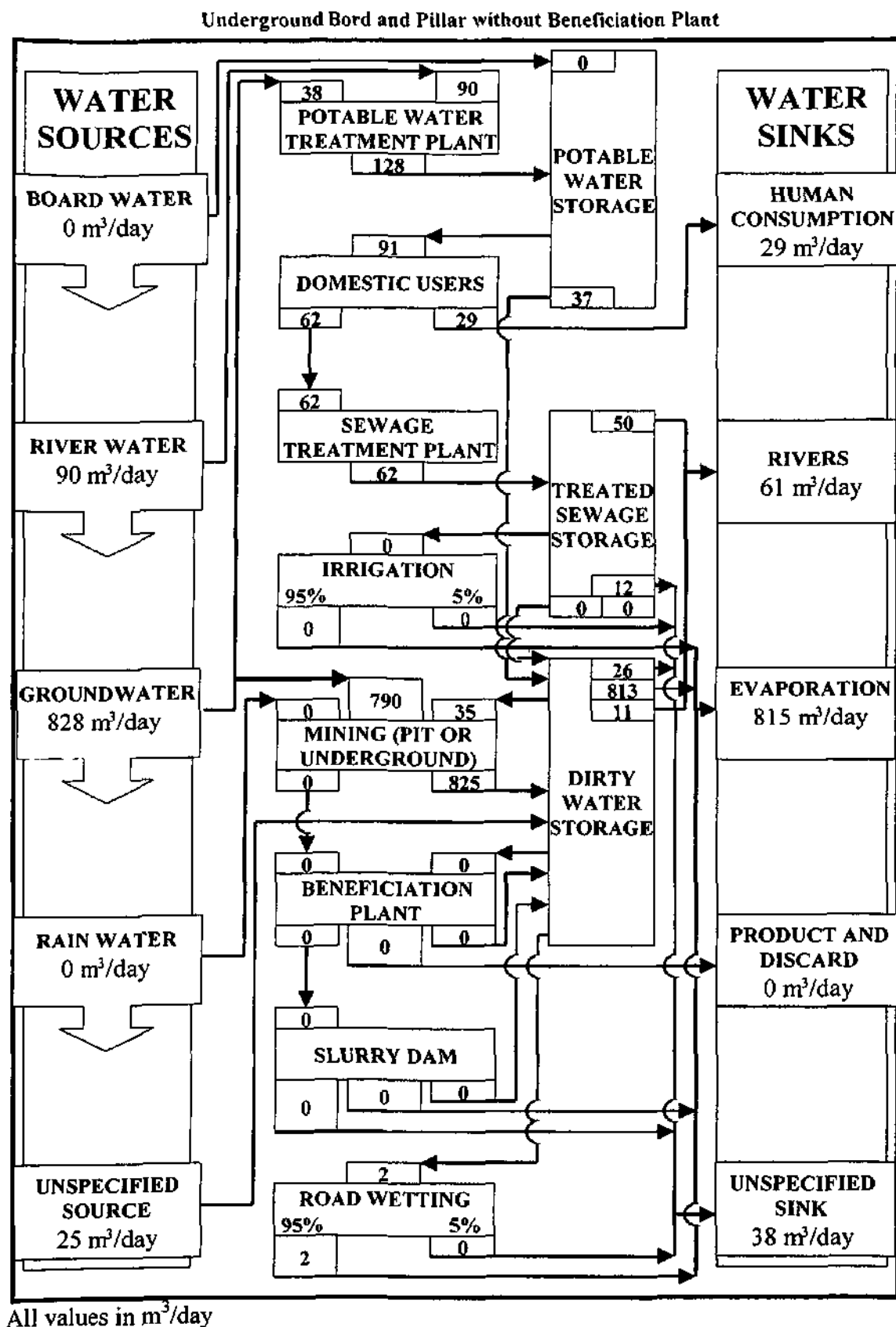


Figure 11: Overall generic water balance for underground bord & pillar mines without beneficiation plants

6. WATER BALANCE FOR TOTAL EXTRACTION MINES WITH BENEFICIATION PLANTS

Figure 12 summarizes the water balance information for underground operations that apply total extraction mining techniques, and which include a beneficiation plant. A more detailed water balance is shown in Figure 13. Only one mine is reflected in this category, producing 833 t/d. The total volume of water required by this mine to operate amounts to 11 340 m³/d. Thus, the volume of water required per ton of coal produced is 13 613 l/t.

The total amount of available potable water is used for domestic purposes. Exactly one quarter of this volume of domestic water is actually consumed. The total volume of treated sewage is discharged into unspecified sinks, no treated sewage is used for irrigation. Underground mining operations require 1 300 m³/d. Of the water processed by the beneficiation plant, 94% is being recycled. Two per cent of the total water budget is being used for road wetting and dust suppression.

Eighty per cent of the effluent is discharged into unspecified sink, which in this particular case would probably be the local river system. Less than 2% of the effluent actually evaporates.

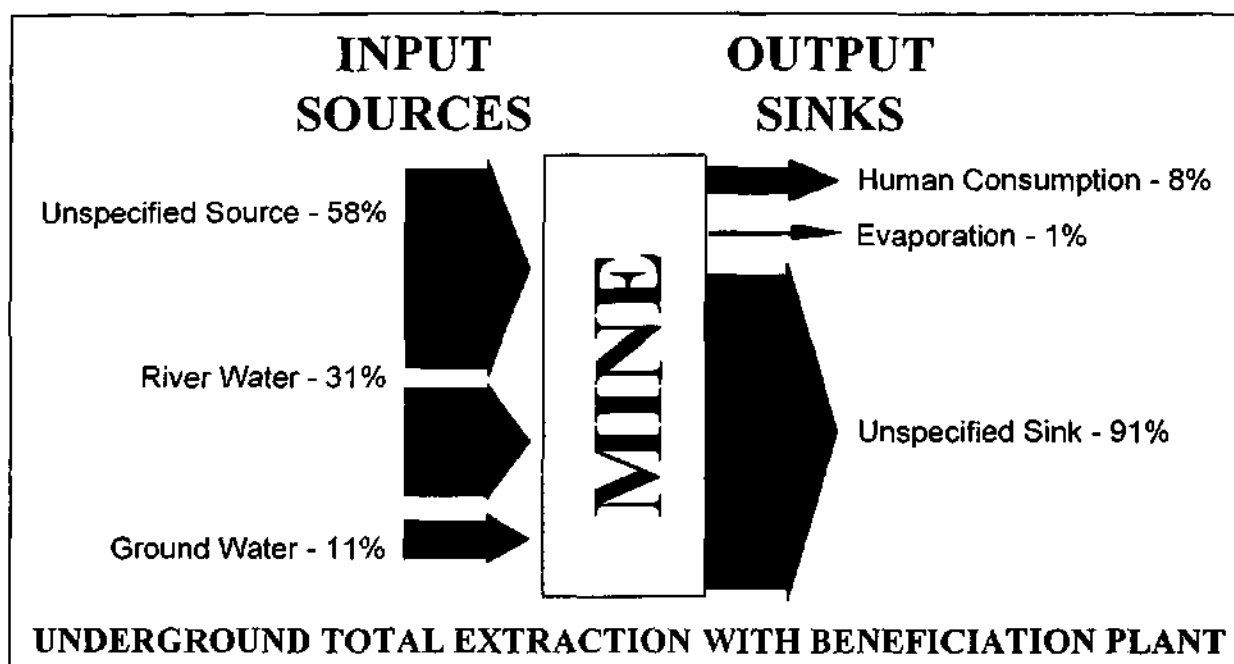
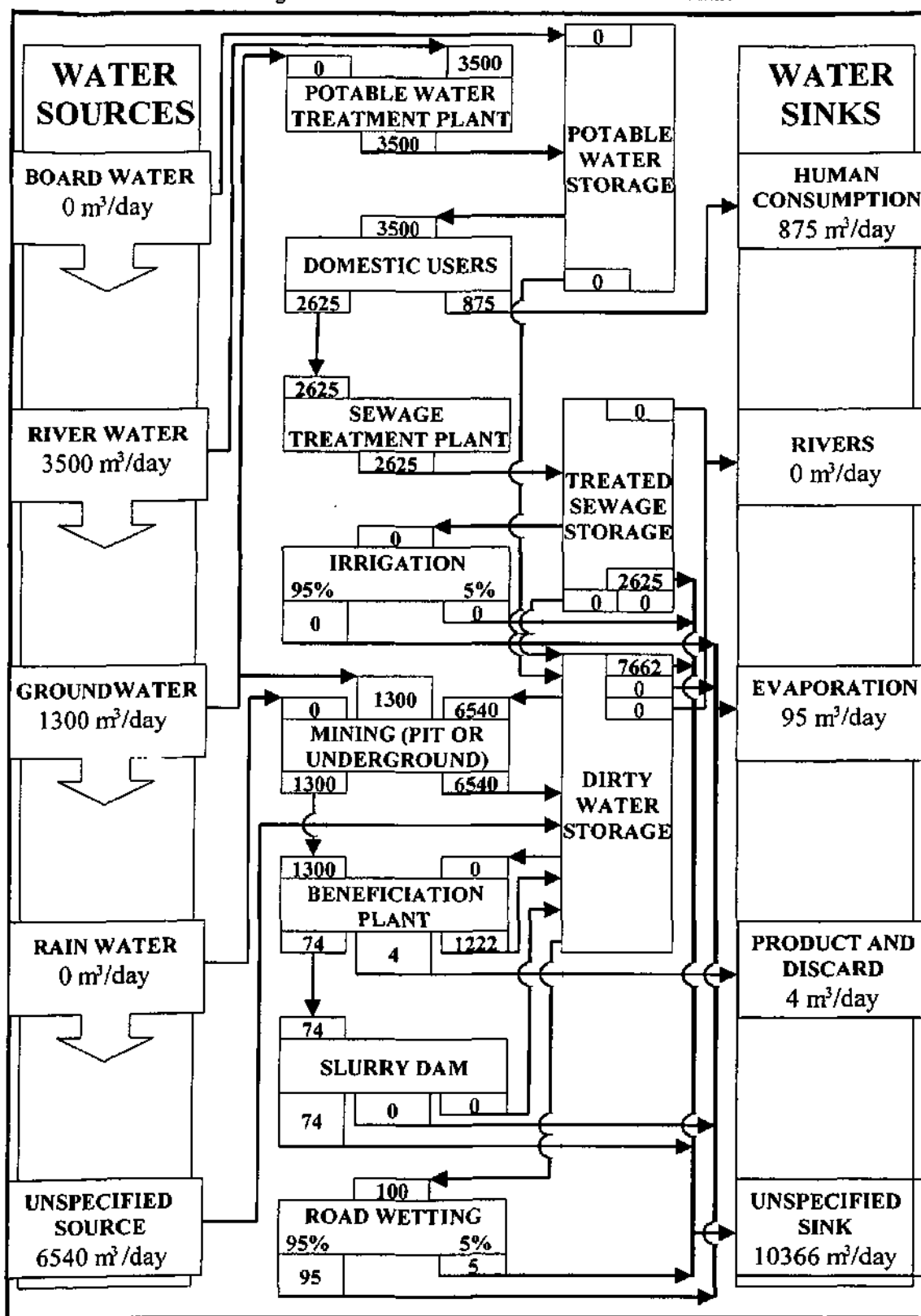


Figure 12: Summary water balance for total extraction mines with beneficiation plants

The details of the one mine that constitute this category are presented in Appendix 2.

Underground Total Extraction with Beneficiation Plant



All values in m³/day

Figure 13: Overall generic water balance for total extraction mines with beneficiation plants

7. WATER BALANCE FOR COMBINED OPENCAST AND UNDERGROUND BORD & PILLAR MINES WITH BENEFICIATION PLANTS

Figure 14 summarizes the water balance for the eleven mines that constitute the category of combine open cast and underground bord and pillar mines with beneficiation plants. A more detailed generic water balance for these mines is shown in Figure 15.

In order to produce 137 693 t/d of coal, the total volume of water required by these mines amounts to 49 019 m³/d. Thus, 356 liters of water is required to produce one ton of coal. The main sources of water are as follows:

- river water - 42.2%
- ground water - 32.5%
- board water - 7.3%
- rain water - 5.5%
- water from unspecified sources - 12.5%

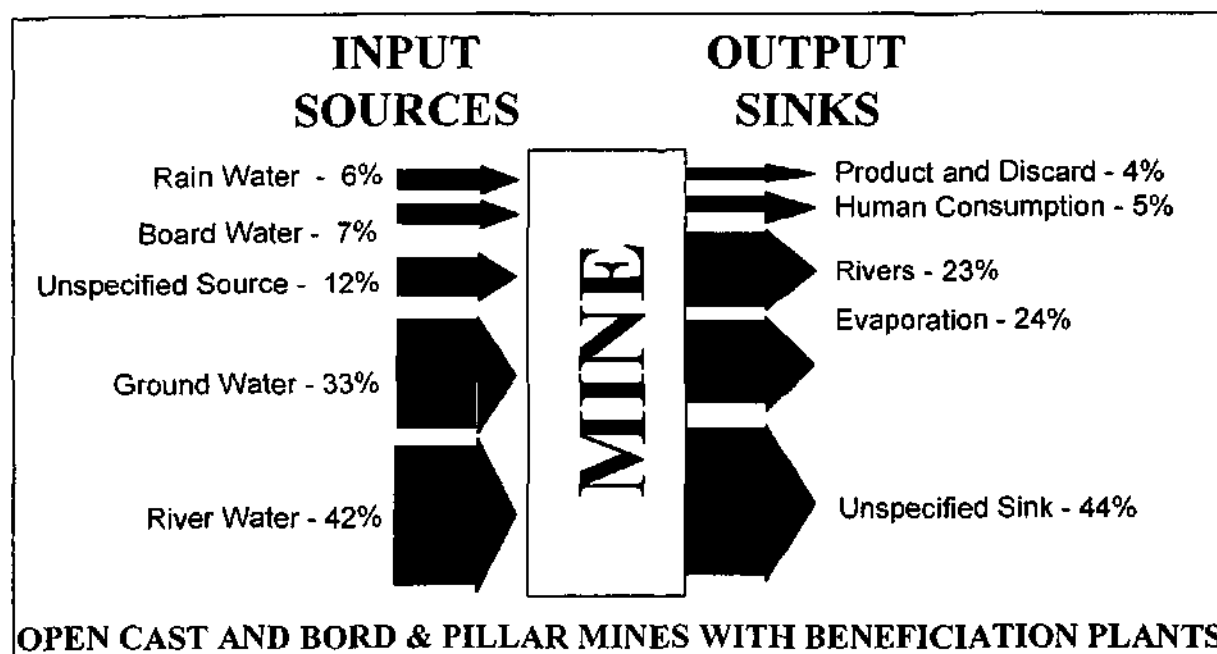
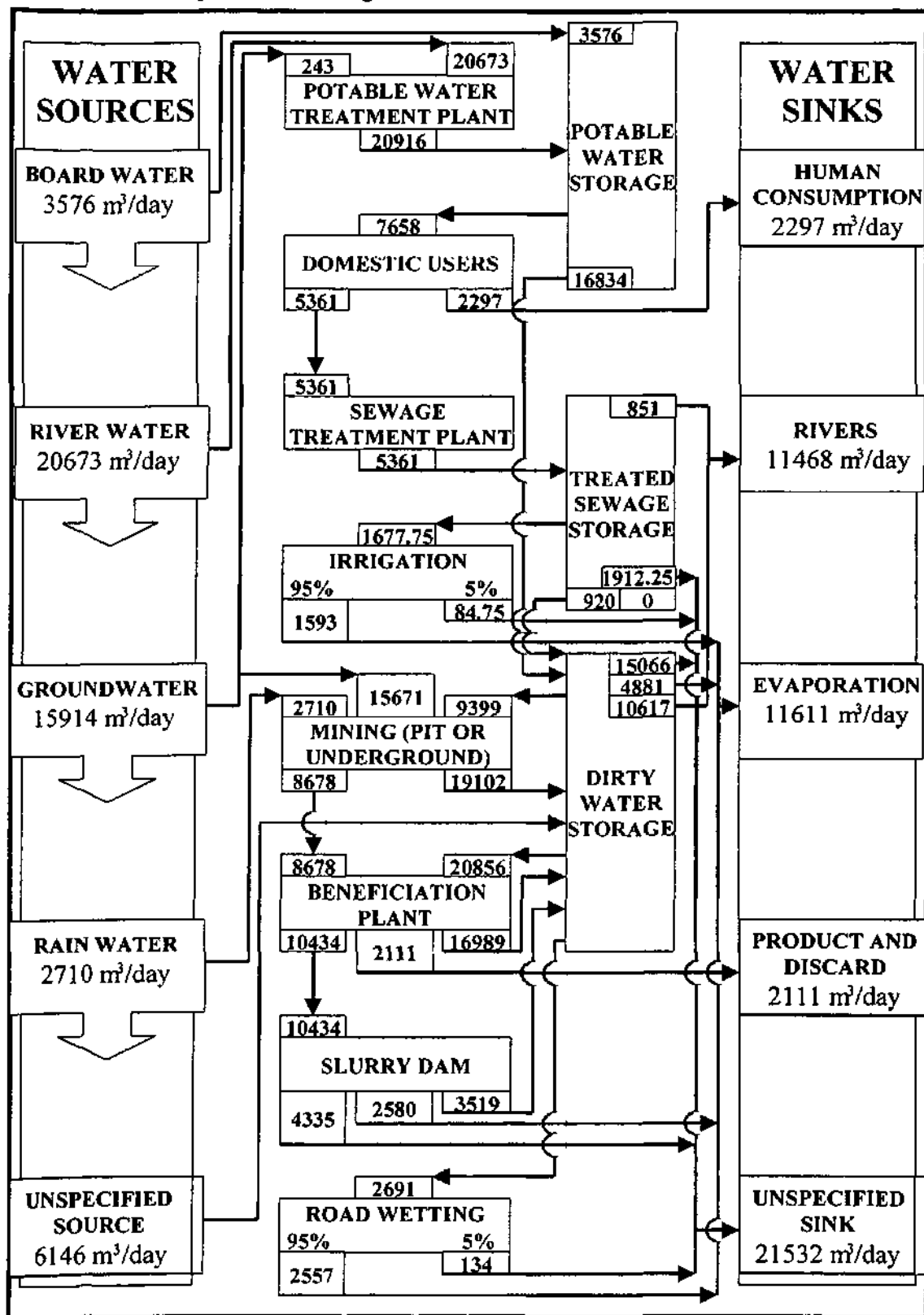


Figure 14: Summary water balance for combined opencast and underground bord & pillar mines with beneficiation plants

Thirty-one per cent of the available potable water is used for domestic purposes, whereas 30% of the domestic water is consumed. Approximately 31.3% of the treated sewage is being used for irrigation and 15.9% is being discharged into the river systems. Approximately 17% of the treated sewage is being recirculated.

The total volume of water required for mining activities amounts to 56.7% of the total water budget, i.e. 27 780 m³/d. Of this volume of water, 68.8% is being recirculated. The beneficiation plant receives 29 534 m³/d, of which 35.3% is passed on to the slurry dam, 57.5% is being recirculated, and the remainder is lost as moisture with the product and discard material. Road wetting and dust suppression accounts for 5.5% of the total water budget.

Open cast & Underground Bord and Pillar with Beneficiation Plant



All values in m³/day

Figure 15: Overall generic water balance for combined opencast and underground bord & pillar mines with beneficiation plants

The largest specified portion of the effluent, i.e. 23.7%, is lost through evaporation, whereas 23.4% of the effluent is discharged into the river systems. Approximately 4.3% is lost as moisture together with the product and discard material. Human consumption accounts for 4.7% of water lost. The remaining portion of effluent, i.e. 43.9%, is discharged into unspecified sinks. Detailed water balances for the eleven mines in this particular group are presented in Appendix 2. Variations for the data between the different mines are shown in Table 5.

Table 5: Summary of the statistics for combined opencast and underground bord & pillar mines with beneficiation plants

	Average	Minimum	Maximum	Average %	Minimum %	Maximum %
Stream 001	48	45	50	50	47	53
Stream 002	3778	333	9945	20	2	65
Stream 003	773	30	2430	17	0	47
Stream 004	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stream 005	1649	340	3606	33	7	73
Stream 006	79	10	203	25	0	85
Stream 007	3778	333	9945	20	2	65
Stream 008	2558	10	9945	14	0	64
Stream 009	559	24	2189	14	1	61
Stream 010	419	18	1642	14	1	61
Stream 011	140	6	547	14	1	61
Stream 012	419	18	1642	14	1	61
Stream 013	143	16	400	25	3	70
Stream 014	136	15	380	25	3	70
Stream 015	7	1	20	25	3	70
Stream 016	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stream 017	725	20	2430	17	0	48
Stream 018	1718	123	3606	33	2	70
Stream 019	985	123	3969	14	2	64
Stream 020	719	20	1430	20	0	52
Stream 021	1321	160	2949	20	2	37
Stream 022	937	82	2850	13	1	42
Stream 023	251	4	1269	13	0	72
Stream 024	959	687	1340	25	11	53
Stream 025	391	82	1433	13	3	49
Stream 026	2580	2580	2580	100	100	100
Stream 027	1247	1247	1247	100	100	100
Stream 028	460	48	1340	20	2	61
Stream 029	437	46	1273	20	2	61
Stream 030	23	2	67	20	2	61
Stream 031	2418	10	9083	20	0	75
Stream 032	0	0	0	100	100	100
Stream 033	471	34	1242	33	2	88
Stream 034	265	23	507	50	4	96
Stream 035	1610	248	5296	17	2	49
Stream 036	905	23	3506	25	1	97
Stream 037	617	617	617	100	100	100
Stream 038	617	617	617	50	23	77
Stream 039	1213	17	3685	13	0	42
Stream 040	1759	149	5422	13	1	35

8. WATER BALANCE FOR COMBINED OPENCAST AND UNDERGROUND BORD & PILLAR MINES WITHOUT BENEFICIATION PLANTS

Water balance data for combined open cast and underground operations without beneficiation plants are summarized in Figure 16 while a more detailed generic water balance is shown in Figure 17. The total production of the three mines in this category amounts to 26 052 t/d. The volume of water associated with these mining activities is 3 503.8 m³/d. Thus, the volume of water required to mine a ton of coal in this particular category is 134 l/t.

Of the available potable water, 66.3% is available for domestic users. Twenty per cent of the volume of domestic water is consumed. A major portion of the treated sewage, i.e. 52.5%, is used for irrigation, whereas the remainder is discharged into unspecified sinks. Approximately 14 per cent of the total water budget is used for the mining operations, whereas 9.1% is used for road wetting and dust control.

The largest portion of the water is reported as being lost due to evaporation, i.e. 74.6%. Apart from the 8.3% lost due to human consumption, the rest of the effluent is being discharged into unspecified sinks. Detailed water balances for the mines in this particular group are presented in Appendix 2. Variations for the data between the different mines are shown in Table 6.

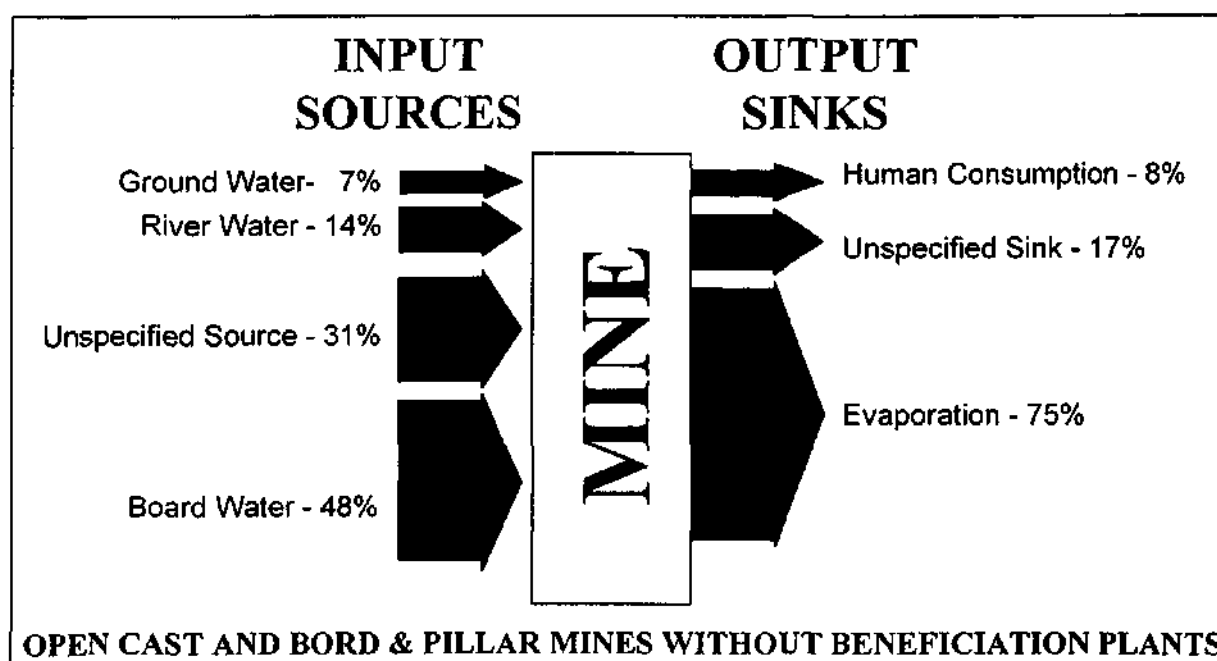
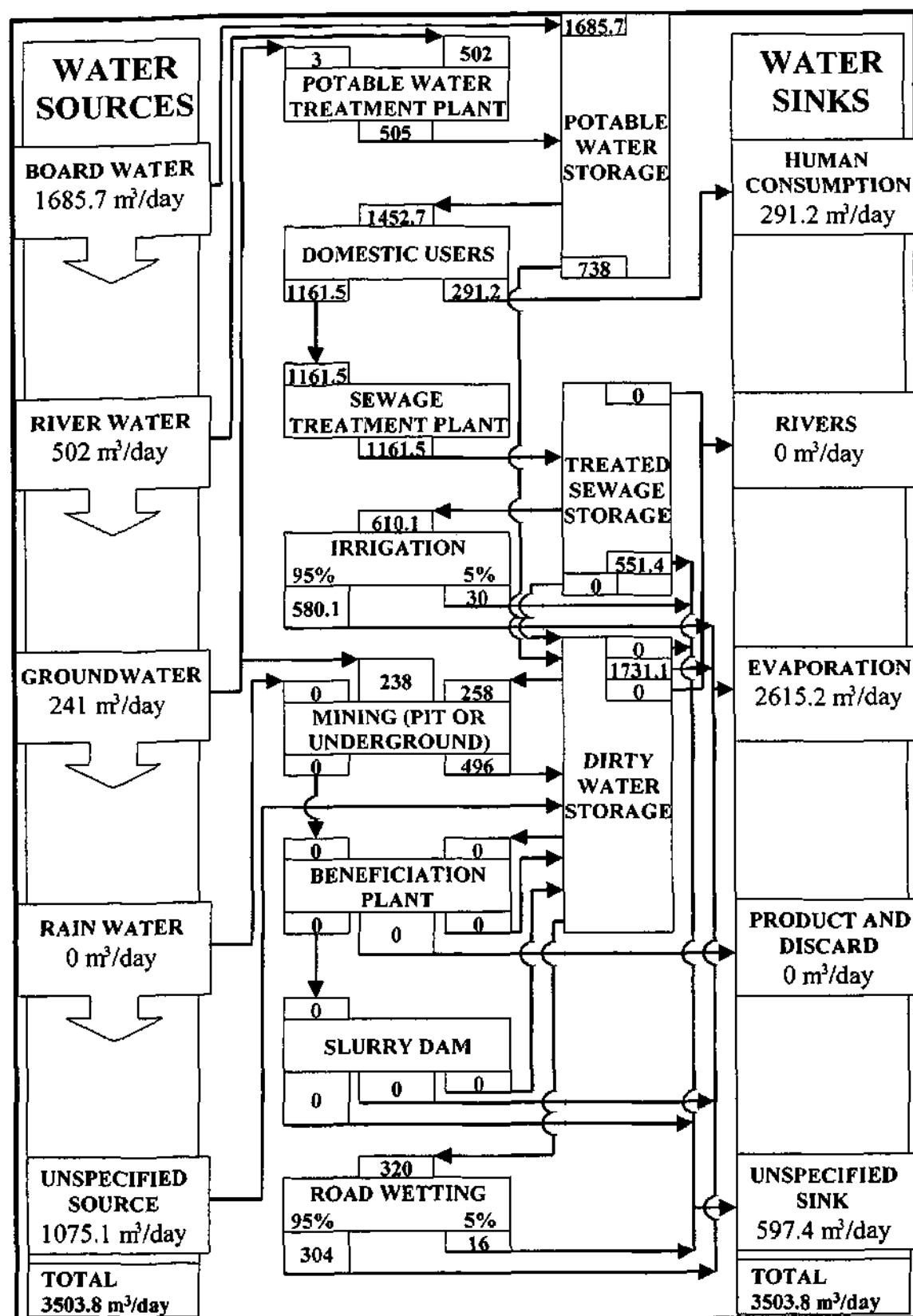


Figure 16: Summary water balance for combined opencast and underground bord & pillar mines without beneficiation plants

Open cast & Underground Bord and Pillar without Beneficiation Plant



All values in m³/day

Figure 17: Overall generic water balance for combined opencast and underground bord & pillar mines without beneficiation plants

Table 6: Summary of the statistics for combined opencast and underground bord & pillar mines without beneficiation plants

	Average	Minimum	Maximum	Average %	Minimum %	Maximum %
Stream 001	843	7	1679	50	0	100
Stream 002	502	502	502	100	100	100
Stream 003	121	40	201	50	17	83
Stream 004	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stream 005	538	225	850	50	21	79
Stream 006	2	1	2	50	33	67
Stream 007	502	502	502	100	100	100
Stream 008	253	1	504	50	0	100
Stream 009	484	8	1085	33	1	75
Stream 010	387	6	886	33	0	76
Stream 011	97	2	199	33	1	68
Stream 012	387	6	886	33	0	76
Stream 013	305	270	340	50	44	56
Stream 014	290	257	323	50	44	56
Stream 015	15	13	17	50	43	57
Stream 016	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stream 017	119	38	200	50	16	84
Stream 018	258	258	258	100	100	100
Stream 019	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stream 020	165	38	258	33	8	52
Stream 021	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stream 022	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stream 023	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stream 024	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stream 025	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stream 026	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stream 027	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stream 028	160	120	200	50	38	63
Stream 029	152	114	190	50	38	63
Stream 030	8	6	10	50	38	63
Stream 031	369	144	594	50	20	80
Stream 032	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stream 033	276	6	546	50	1	99
Stream 034	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stream 035	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stream 036	577	182	850	33	11	49
Stream 037	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stream 038	0	0	0	0	0	0
Stream 039	872	439	1136	33	17	43
Stream 040	199	13	569	33	2	95

9. EVALUATION OF EFFECT OF BENEFICIATION PLANTS ON WATER BALANCES FOR DIFFERENT TYPES OF MINING

The data presented in Chapters 2 to 8 clearly indicate significant anomalies, the most important of which are;

- Large percentages of water derived from unspecified sources (up to 58%) and discharged to unspecified sinks (up to 98%).
- Major variations in evaporation data, ranging from 1 to 87%.
- Major variations in water losses reported with product and discard, ranging from 0 to 10%.

These anomalies, together with the general poor state of water balances found within the industry, make it very difficult to extract meaningful information from the data. It also makes it impossible to determine whether calculated differences in water usage between different types of mining are real or whether they are artifacts of poor data. The discussion presented in this chapter should, therefore, not be considered definitive.

9.1 Open Cast Mines With Beneficiation Plants Vs Open Cast Mines Without Beneficiation Plants

Open cast mines with beneficiation plants represent approximately 20% of the total number of mines surveyed, whereas 5% are open cast mines without beneficiation plants.

The largest source of water for open cast mining operations "with beneficiation plants" is ground water, whereas mines in the category "open cast mines without beneficiation plants" reported river water as the main source of water. The significant effect of a beneficiation plant on water demand is clearly illustrated - mines without a beneficiation plant require 13.6 l/t of coal produced, while mines with a beneficiation plant require 381 l/t of coal produced.

Mines without beneficiation plants consume 25% of the potable water, as opposed to approximately 14% for mines with beneficiation plants, presumably due to the presence of additional users within the plant. The proportion of the total water budget required for the actual mining operations is 14.7% for mining operations without beneficiation plants and 42% for mining operations with beneficiation plants. Those operations with beneficiation plants recycle approximately 26% of the total water budget.

Discharge of effluent in operations associated with beneficiation plants is predominantly claimed to be through evaporation, whereas those operations without beneficiation plants discharge effluent mainly into unspecified sinks, which could include ground water seepage. The apportionment of 98% of "lost" water to unspecified sinks in mines without beneficiation plants is unacceptable and may indicate a higher level of water management on those mines that use more water.

Water usage for domestic and underground mining purposes was only reported by one mine. The usage of water by a single mine, forming 17 % of the total sample set, cannot be validly extrapolated to all open cast mines with beneficiation plants.

A single mine reported data for the effluent water being discharged into rivers, resulting in a value of $0.12 \text{ m}^3/\text{t}$. Again this is not a true reflection of the industry, and detracts from the quality and validity of the conclusions in this report.

It needs to be emphasised that the lack of data for the open cast mines with beneficiation plants with regard to borehole, rainfall, river effluent and seepage would definitely lead to inconclusive water balances for this particular category of mines. The lack of domestic water usage data for open cast mines without beneficiation plants would also lead to inconclusive water balances.

9.2 Underground Bord And Pillar Mines With Beneficiation Plants Vs Underground Bord And Pillar Mines Without Beneficiation Plants

The total number of underground bord and pillar mines with beneficiation plants represented 31.7% of the total sample set. The total number of underground bord and pillar mines without beneficiation plants, represented 7.3% of the total sample set. A total of thirteen mines in the survey database employ bord and pillar mining, with or without beneficiation plants. The volume of water required for the underground operations with and without beneficiation plants is 571 l/t and 153 l/t , respectively. This again shows a significant increase in the mine's water usage when a beneficiation plant is present.

The ground water contributed a mean value of $30\,004 \text{ m}^3/\text{d}$, i.e. 40%, to the total water budget in the category "underground bord and pillar mines with beneficiation plants". In the category "underground bord and pillar mines without beneficiation plants", ground water also provided the bulk of the water budget, i.e. 88% ($828 \text{ m}^3/\text{d}$).

Mines without beneficiation plants use 87% of the water budget for the underground mining activities, whereas mines with plants use 46.3% of the total water budget for mining. The relatively low proportion of water budget required by underground mining operations is probably due to the high percentage of recycled water being used on these mines, i.e. 68% of the water is being recycled.

Thirteen percent ($n=5$) of the total number of underground bord and pillar mines with and without beneficiation plants reported data for seepage. It is widely accepted that seepage from coal mining operations is a major issue of concern. It is therefore imperative that such information should be monitored and included in future water and salt balances.

If the data for evaporation and unspecified sinks are added together then it can be seen that approximately 80 - 90 % of discharged water can reportedly be ascribed thereto. These values are unacceptably high and it is difficult to conceive of a water reticulation system that loses 87% to evaporation.

In order to calculate a representative and useful water and salt balance, it is important that a proper inventory of the contributing parameters should be formulated. The limited number of mines that actually provided data for rainfall, seepage and evaporation creates the perception that the contribution of these parameter are being regarded as insignificant, whereas they actually form an important and integral part of an accurate water and salt balance.

9.3 Underground Total Extraction With Beneficiation Plants Vs Underground Total Extraction Without Beneficiation Plants

Only one underground total extraction mine was included in the survey and it included a beneficiation plant. No assessment can therefore be made of the effect of a beneficiation plant on the water balance.

9.4 Open Cast And Underground Bord And Pillar Mines With Beneficiation Plants Vs Open Cast And Underground Bord And Pillar Mines Without Beneficiation Plants

The data from eleven mines that use open cast and underground bord and pillar mining and that have beneficiation plants was acquired, i.e. 26.8% of the mines in the database, compared to the data from three open cast and underground bord and pillar mines without beneficiation plants. The volume of water required per ton of coal mined is 134 l/t for operation without beneficiation plants and 356 l/t for mines with beneficiation plants.

River water is the main water source (42.2%) for operations with beneficiation plants, whereas mines operating without beneficiation plant are mainly dependant on board water, which forms 48.1% of their water budget. Ground water is a major source of water for mines with beneficiation plants, forming 32.5% of the total water budget, as opposed to the 6.9% contribution to the total water budget in operations without a beneficiation plant.

In the case of mining operations without beneficiation plants, the majority of effluent is apportioned to evaporation, i.e. 74.6%. In case of operations with beneficiation plants the discharge is distributed more evenly among the various effluent sinks, i.e. evaporation – 23.7%, river systems – 23.4%, human consumption – 4.7%, and moisture associated with product and discard – 4.3%. The remaining 44% of effluent is discharged into unspecified sinks.

No mines reported any seepage information. This would negatively influence the calculation of a water balance of mines in this category. Five mines reported evaporation data, representing 50% of the mines with and without beneficiation plants.

9.5 General Comments

Although it can generally be stated that the majority of mines suffer from poor water balance information, it would appear that the mines with beneficiation plants have somewhat better water balances. This may be linked to the fact that they use considerably more water than mines without beneficiation plants and are therefore required to apply better water management. The large flows apportioned to evaporation and unspecified sinks clearly hamper the development of meaningful water balances and make interpretation difficult.

10. WATER BALANCE COMPARISONS FOR MINES LOCATED IN THE OLIFANTS RIVER AND VAAL RIVER CATCHMENTS

10.1 Olifants River Catchment

The number of mines located in the Olifants River catchment area formed 51% ($n = 21$) of the mines in the database. The average volume of water required per ton of coal mined for mines within the Olifants River catchment area is 347 l/t, given a total production of 332 017 t/d and a water requirement of 115 059 m³/d.

River water and ground water constituted the main sources of water in this catchment area, contributing 36.9% and 37.7%, respectively, to the total water budget. Only 13.1% of the water was sourced as board water. Rainwater supplied only 4.2% of the total water budget. A summary water balance is shown in Figure 18 below while a more detailed generic water balance is shown in Figure 19.

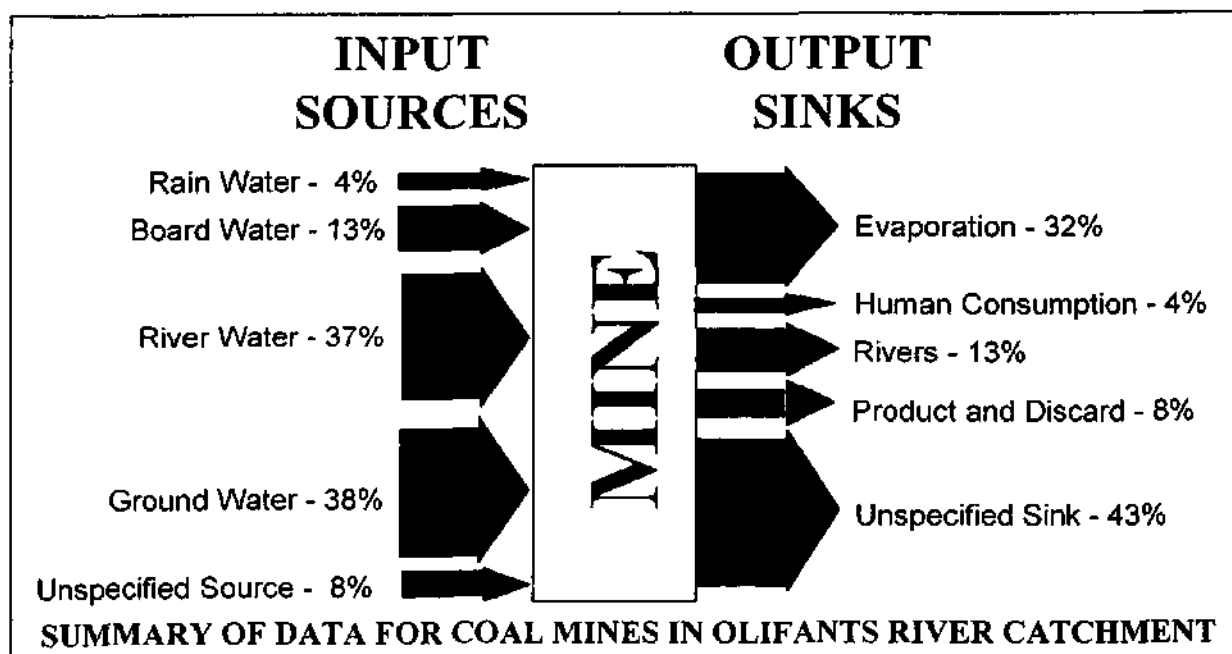


Figure 18: Summary water balance for coal mines in the Olifants River catchment

One quarter of the potable water is allocated for domestic use while domestic users consume 13.4% of the domestic water. Furthermore, one quarter of the treated sewage is used for irrigation purposes. Of the treated sewage effluent, 14.3% is discharged into the river systems. The actual mining operations in the catchment area consume 47.2% of the total water budget. Sixty-five per cent of the water required by the mining operations is recycled.

The volume of water that enters the beneficiation plant is 44.8% of the total water budget, whereas 52.8% of the beneficiation plant water budget is recycled. Approximately 5% of the total water budget is used for dust suppression and road wetting purposes. Only 13.3% of the effluent is discharged into the river systems, whereas the largest volume of effluent is lost to unspecified sinks. Evaporation reportedly accounts for 32.4% of water leaving the systems, with 7.5% of the water being lost as moisture associated with product and discard material.

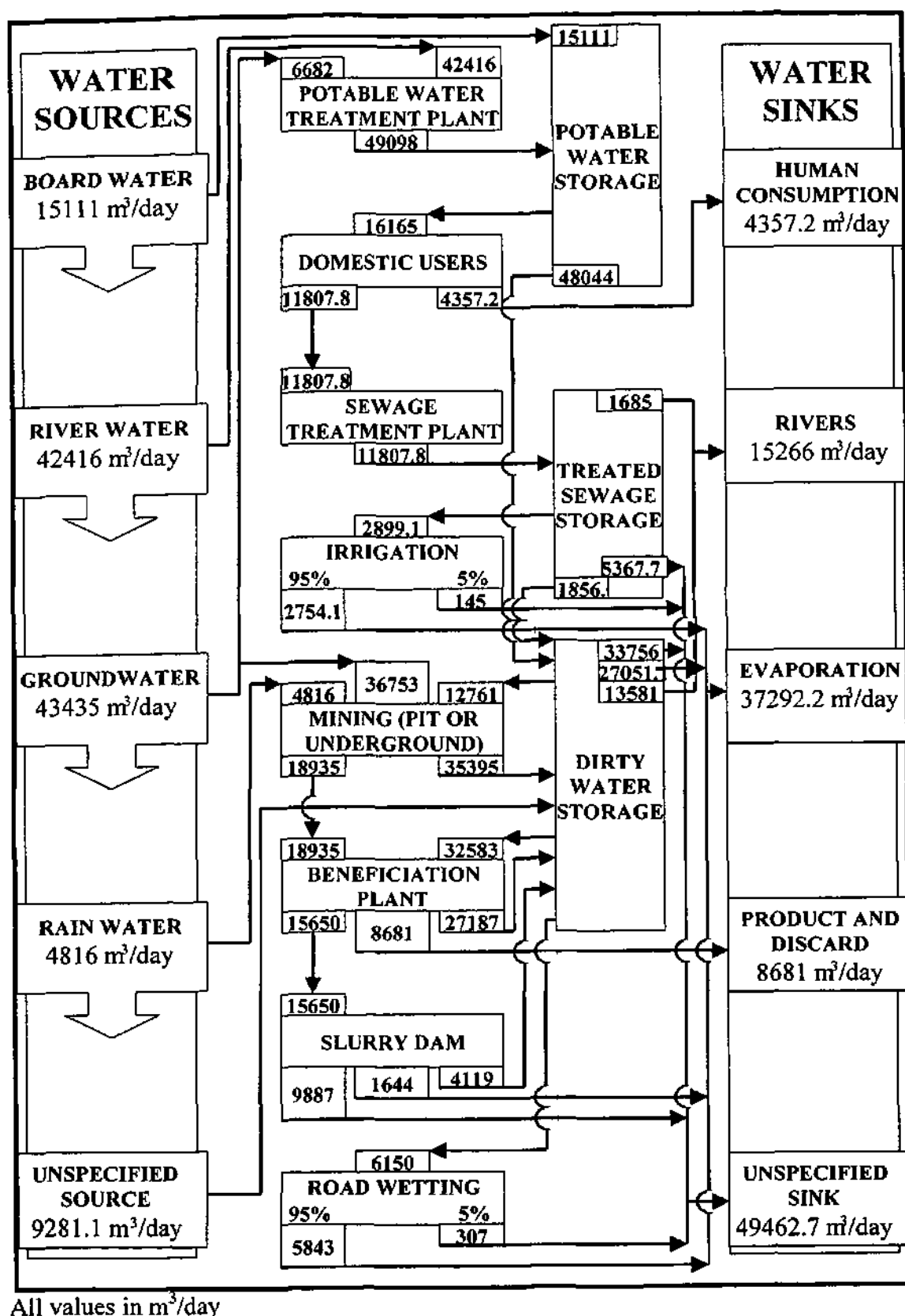


Figure 19: Overall generic water balance for coal mines in the Olifants River catchment

All the mines in the Olifants River catchment drew water from water boards, rivers, boreholes and underground mining or pit water as a primary water source. Combinations of these water sources were used for the mines in this particular catchment. River water was used by 64% of

the mines as a water source, resulting in a mean value of 0.32 m³/t of coal produced. Mines that used underground or pit water as a primary water source totalled some 86%. Only four mines reported rainfall as a source of water.

Approximately 68% of the mines reported using water for beneficiation plants. This indicates that not all the mines in the Olifants River catchment have beneficiation plants. Only 55% reported usage of water for underground mining. Water that is released back to the rivers was only reported by four of the twenty-two mines. This indicates that it is possible that mines are either storing their water and have closed systems, or are not measuring the volume of water that is returned to the rivers.

Seepage losses were only reported by 18% of the mines. This raises a serious question with regard to the adequacy of the water balances. Evaporation was reported by 50% of the mines. The information supplied by the mines did not always indicated whether the evaporation figures were measured or used as a convenient way to balance the calculations. A similar argument applies to the ten mines that reported irrigation figures in the water balances. Twelve mines reported that they recirculated their water. These mines reported closed loop systems for their mines.

10.2 Vaal River Catchment

A total of seven mines that were located in the Vaal River catchment area were included in the database, i.e. 17.1% of the mines in the total database. The total production of these mines amounts to 99 833 t/d, and the volume of water required per ton of coal mined is 472 l/t. The largest source of water is ground water, i.e. 45.4%, whereas 23.2% board water and 8.1% river water makes up the rest of the balance. Approximately one quarter of the water used for coal mining activities in the Vaal River catchment area come from unspecified sources. A summary water balance is shown in Figure 20 below while a more detailed generic water balance is shown in Figure 21.

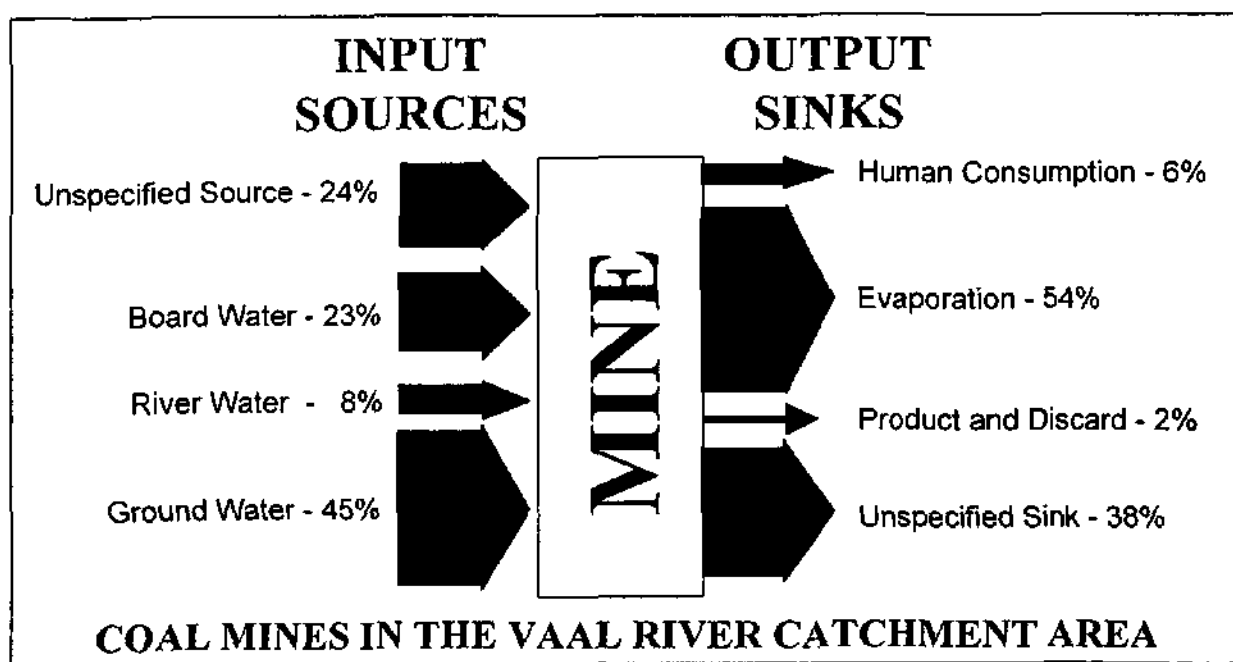
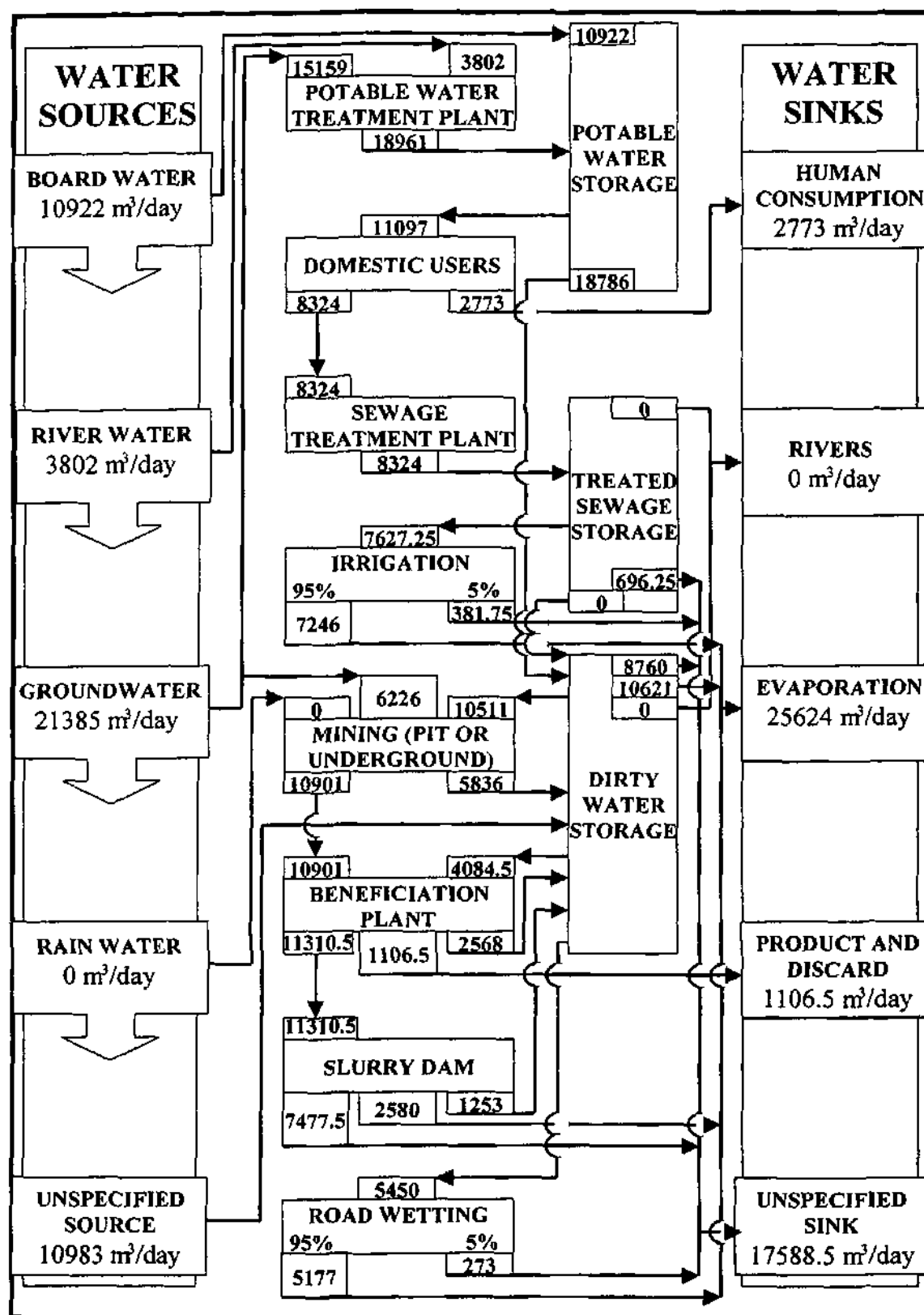


Figure 20: Summary water balance for coal mines in the Vaal River catchment



All values in m³/day

Figure 21: Overall generic water balance for coal mines in the Vaal River catchment

Domestic users consume 5.9% of the total water budget. More than 90% of the treated sewage effluent is used for irrigation. The data obtained in the survey show that no water is released into the rivers in the Vaal River catchment area.

Approximately 30% of the ground water is being used in mining operations. The total water budget required for mining operations forms 35.5% of the available water. Almost 35% of the water used in mining operations is being recycled. Seventeen per cent of the water used in beneficiation plants is being recycled and 7.4% is lost together with the product and discard. A small portion of the slurry pond water is recycled, i.e. 11.1%. Water used for dust suppression and road wetting makes-up 11.6% of the total water budget. The bulk of the water is reportedly lost through evaporation, i.e. 54.4%. Only 2.3% is lost as moisture associated with coal product and discard. The remaining effluent is discharged into unspecified sinks.

All of the mines in the Vaal River catchment drew water from water boards, rivers, boreholes and underground mining or pit water. All the mines used underground or pit water as a water source. Two mines reported rainfall as a source of water. The water users for plant water totalled 86%. Some 50% reported a usage of water for underground mining.

No seepage was reported by any of the mines, which raises questions regarding the accuracy of the mine water balances. Evaporation was reported by 43% of the mines.

11. OVERALL WATER BALANCE FOR THE SOUTH AFRICAN COAL MINING INDUSTRY

The overall water balance for the South African coal mining industry indicates that on average, 133 l of water is used for each ton of coal that is mined. A large percentage, approximately 85%, use underground or pit water as a water source compared to some 57% that extract board water as a water source. Volumetrically, the primary source of water came from ground water and river water, contributing 35.9% and 32.3% respectively. Board water as a primary source, contributed 12.7% of the total water source. A summary of the water balance is shown in Figure 22 while a more detailed generic water balance is shown in Figure 23. Summary data on water sources and sinks are shown in Tables 7 and 8 respectively.

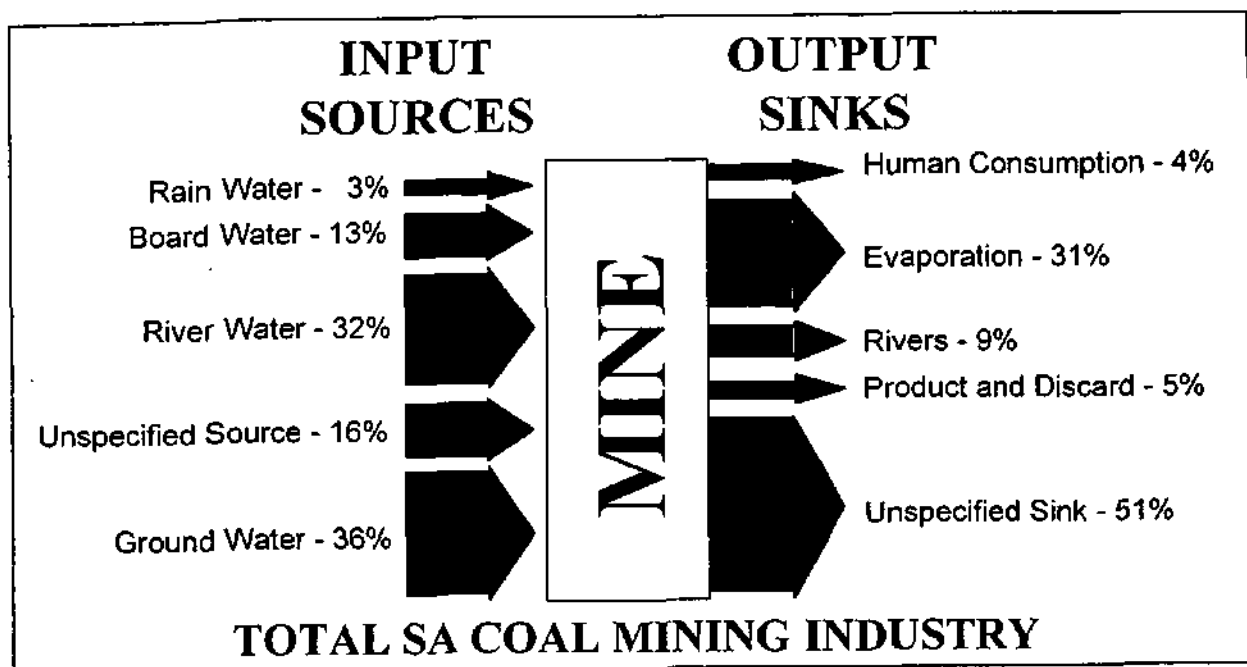
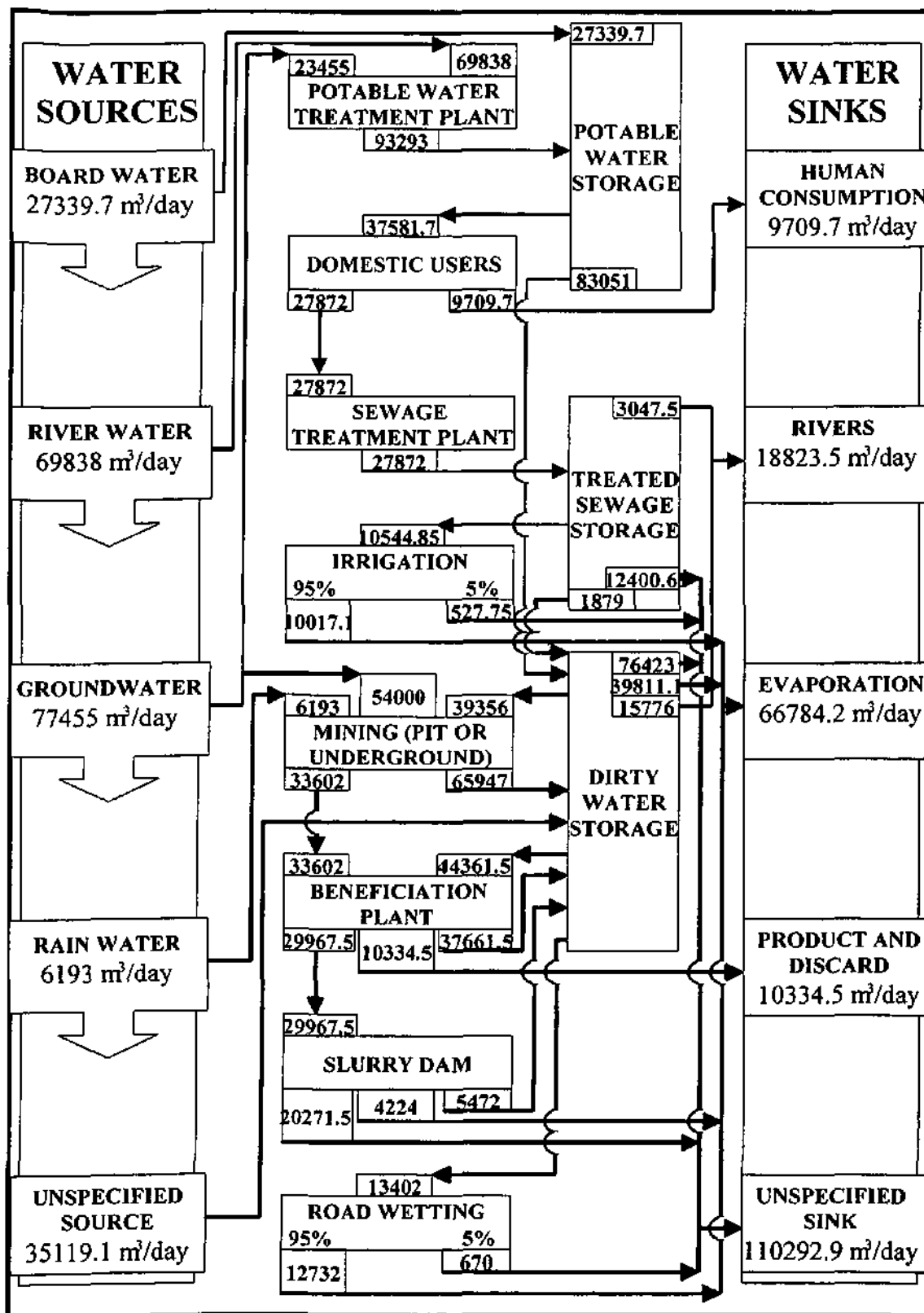


Figure 22: Summary water balance for the South African coal mining industry

Beneficiation plants consumed the largest portion, *i.e.* 36.1%, of the water used by the industry, compared to mining operations that used 25% of the available water. Six percent of the total water consumed by the coal mining industry was used for road wetting. Approximately 31% of the available potable water is used for domestic purposes, with 18.8% of the latter volume of water actually being consumed.

Only ten mines, *i.e.* 25% of the total number of mines, have included seepage as a parameter in water balance calculations, creating the erroneous perception that seepage from coal mines is not a problem. This omission reflects, among others, the lack of detail contained in water balances produced by the majority of mines.

In general, the water balances provided by the mines suffers from a lack of detail, *e.g.* 40% have not included evaporation in their water balance. In order to develop a thorough understanding of the water and salt balance in the coal mining industry, it is imperative that sufficient detail should be included in the mine's balances.



All values in m³/day

Figure 23: Overall generic water balance for the South African coal mining industry

The incompleteness of water balances on South African coal mines is reflected in the large percentage, i.e. 51.1%, of effluent being discharged into unspecified sinks. These unspecified sinks could include loss of water that is difficult to quantify, such as ground water, but could

also indicate a lack of good water balance information for each individual mine. In general, water is lost in the following manners: human consumption – 4.5%; rivers – 8.7%; evaporation – 30.9%; and water lost as moisture with the coal and discard material – 4.8%.

Table 7: Summary of water sources data for all survey mines

Stream	Opencast with beneficiation plant	Opencast without beneficiation plant	Underground bord&pillar with beneficiation plant	Underground bord&pillar without beneficiation plant	Total extraction with beneficiation plant	Opencast and bord&pillar with beneficiation plant	Opencast and bord&pillar without beneficiation plant	TOTAL SURVEY MINES
Coal production (t/d)	159056	1168333	130650	6167	833	137693	26052	1628784
No of mines	8	2	13	3	1	11	3	41
BOARD WATER								
Volume (m ³)	2537	1205	18336	0	0	3576	1686	27340
% of budget	4	8	25	0	0	7	48	13
Specific usage (l/t)	15.95	1.03	140.34	0	0	25.97	64.72	16.79
RAIN WATER								
Volume (m ³)	2106	1377	0	0	0	2710	0	6193
% of budget	3	9	0	0	0	6	0	3
Specific usage (l/t)	13.24	1.18	0	0	0	19.68	0	3.80
RIVER WATER								
Volume (m ³)	18824	10822	15427	90	3500	20673	502	69838
% of budget	31	68	21	10	31	42	14	32
Specific usage (l/t)	118.35	9.26	118.08	14.59	4201.68	150.14	19.27	42.88
GROUND WATER								
Volume (m ³)	26726	2442	30004	828	1300	15914	241	77455
% of budget	45	15	40	88	11	33	7	36
Specific usage (l/t)	168.03	2.09	229.65	134.26	1560.60	115.58	9.25	47.55
UNSPECIFIED SOURCES								
Volume (m ³)	10495	0	10838	25	6540	6146	1075	35119
% of budget	17	0	14	2	58	12	31	16
Specific usage (l/t)	65.98	0	82.95	4.05	7851.14	44.64	41.26	21.56
TOTAL WATER SOURCES								
Volume (m ³)	60688	15846	74605	943	11340	49019	3504	215945
% of budget	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Specific usage (l/t)	381.55	13.56	571.03	152.91	13613.45	356.00	134.50	132.58

Table 8: Summary of water sinks data for all survey mines

Stream	Opencast with beneficiation plant	Opencast without beneficiation plant	Underground bord&pillar with beneficiation plant	Underground bord&pillar without beneficiation plant	Total extraction with benefici- cation plant	Opencast and bord&pillar with beneficiation plant	Opencast and bord&pillar without beneficiation plant	TOTAL SURVEY MINES
Coal production (t/d)	159056	1168333	130650	6167	833	137693	26052	1628784
No of mines	8	2	13	3	1	11	3	41
HUMAN CONSUMPTION								
Volume (m ³)	1005	132	5081	29	875	2297	291	9710
% of budget	2	1	7	3	8	5	8	4
Specific usage (l/t)	6.32	0.11	38.89	4.70	1050.42	16.68	11.17	5.96
DISCHARGE TO RIVERS								
Volume (m ³)	1101	0	6193	61	0	11468	0	18824
% of budget	2	0	8	6	0	23	0	9
Specific usage (l/t)	6.92	0	47.40	9.89	0	83.29	0	11.56
PRODUCT & DISCARD MOISTURE								
Volume (m ³)	6005	0	2219	0	4	2111	0	10334
% of budget	10	0	3	0	0	4	0	5
Specific usage (l/t)	37.75	0	16.98	0	4.81	15.33	0	6.34
EVAPORATION								
Volume (m ³)	36200	153	15295	815	95	11611	2615	66784
% of budget	59	1	21	87	1	24	75	31
Specific usage (l/t)	227.59	0.13	117.07	132.16	114.05	84.33	100.38	41.00
DISCHARGE TO UNSPECIFIED SINKS								
Volume (m ³)	16377	15561	45817	38	10366	21532	598	110293
% of budget	27	98	61	4	91	44	17	51
Specific usage (l/t)	102.96	13.32	350.69	6.16	12444.18	156.38	22.95	67.71
TOTAL SINKS								
Volume (m ³)	60688	15846	74605	943	11340	49019	3504	215945
% of budget	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Specific usage (l/t)	381.55	13.56	571.03	152.91	13613.45	356.00	134.50	132.58

An evaluation of the different components of the water balance is presented in the following sections of this chapter. The data shown in Tables 7 and 8 clearly indicate that there are two categories of mine that deviate substantially from the average values. The 2 mines classed as opencast without a beneficiation plant account for a large percentage (71.7%) of the overall coal production but exhibit an extremely low water usage based on supplied data. On the other hand, the single total extraction mine with a beneficiation plant has a very small coal production but an extremely high water usage. If the data for these three mines are excluded then the average data for all the survey mines changes substantially as shown below:

- Average specific board water usage changes from 16.79 l/t to 56.86 l/t
- Average specific rain water usage changes from 3.80 l/t to 10.48 l/t
- Average specific river water usage changes from 42.88 l/t to 120.79 l/t
- Average specific ground water usage changes from 47.55 l/t to 160.38 l/t
- Average water usage from unspecified sources changes from 21.56 l/t to 62.18 l/t
- Average human consumption of water changes from 5.96 l/t to 18.94 l/t
- Average water discharge to river changes from 11.56 l/t to 40.96 l/t
- Average water loss to product and discard moisture changes from 6.34 l/t to 22.48 l/t

- Average evaporative water loss changes from 41.00 l/t to 144.76 l/t
- Average water discharge to unspecified sinks changes from 67.71 l/t to 183.56 l/t
- Average total water usage changes from 132.58 l/t to 410.69 l/t

11.1 Usage of Board Water

The reported usage of Board water varied significantly between the different types of mining activities as shown in Figure 24 below.

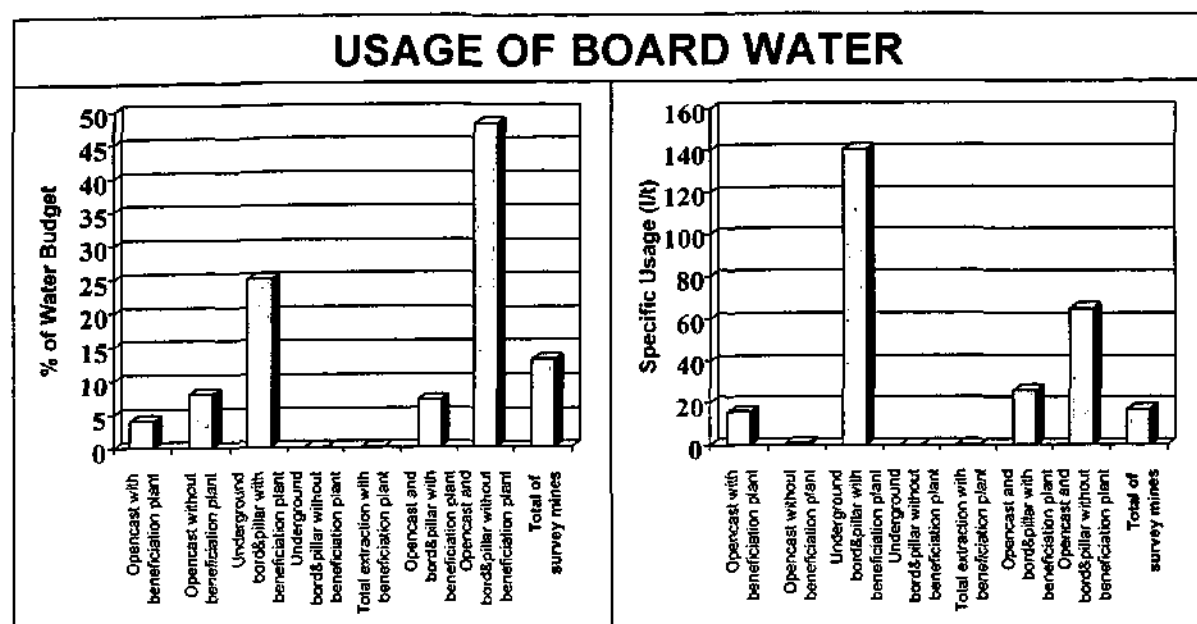


Figure 24: Usage of board water

The average usage of Board water within the survey coal mines is 16.79 l/ton of coal mined, although this increases to 56.86 l/ton when the data for opencast mines without beneficiation plants and total extraction mines with beneficiation plant are excluded. It is interesting to note that two of the mining categories (underground bord & pillar with beneficiation plant and combined opencast and bord & pillar mines without beneficiation plant) have a major requirement for Board water in terms of their overall water budget. There is no clear explanation for this and it may be a co-incidence of the physical locality of the mines.

11.2 Usage of Rain Water

The reported usage of rain water varied significantly between the different types of mining activities as shown in Figure 25 below.

It is believed that the fact that so many mines did not include rainwater in the overall water budget is indicative of inadequate water balances. Coal mines include significant areas of contaminated land, particularly for opencast mines and all mines with beneficiation plants. Good practice with regard to pollution control requires that rain runoff from these contaminated areas be collected and reused or treated and discharged. Mines in these categories that do not include rain water in their water balance either have an inadequate balance or are not applying appropriate water management measures.

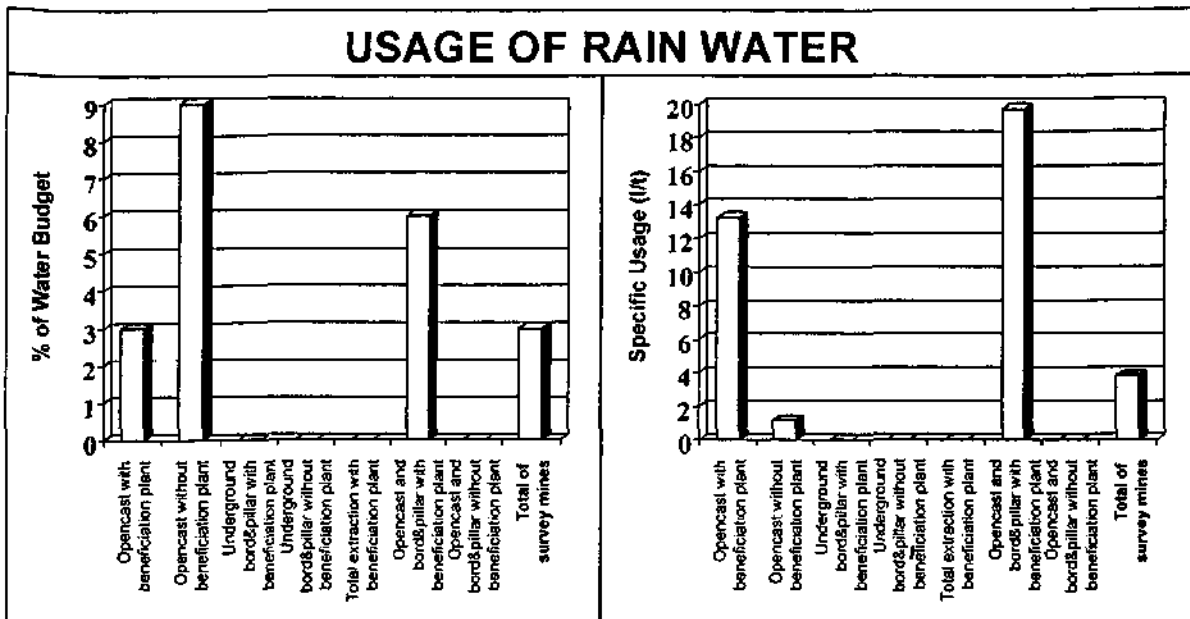


Figure 25: Usage of rain water

11.3 Usage of River Water

The reported usage of river water varied between the different types of mining activities as shown in Figure 26 below.

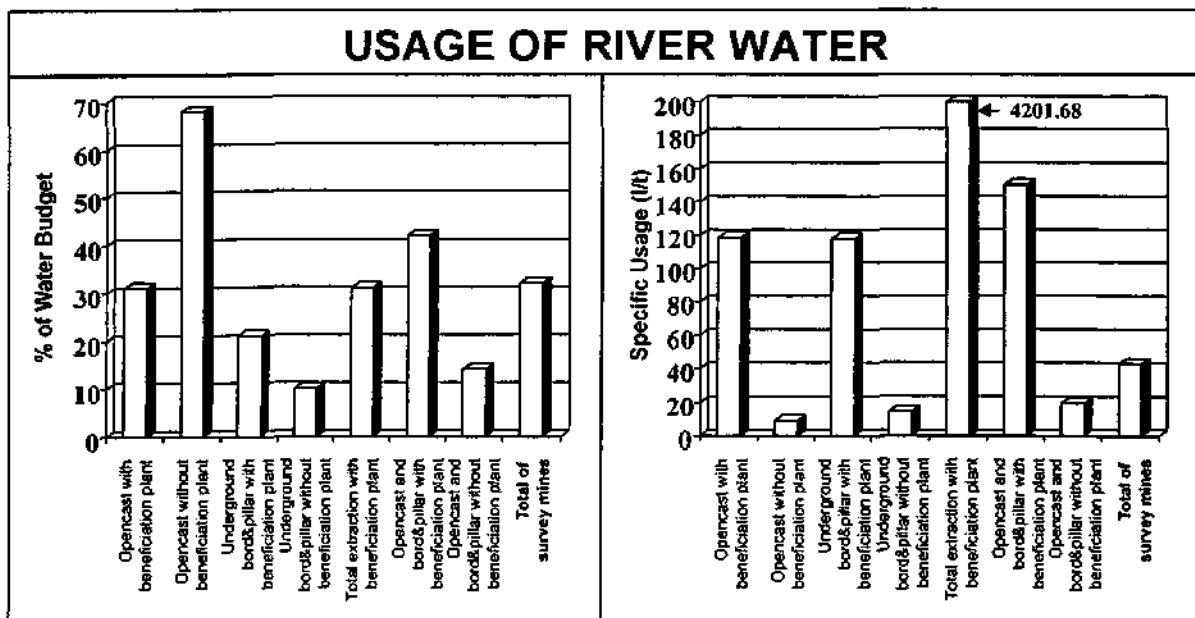


Figure 26: Usage of river water

While the actual importance of river water as a contributor to the overall water budget varied substantially from 10 to 68%, all the categories of mining included river water as a primary water source with an average contribution of 32% of water budget. The specific usage of river water varied from less than 10l/ton of coal to 150 l/ton of coal with a single mine reporting a usage of 4200 l/ton of coal. The average specific usage of river water increases from 42.88 to

120.79 l/ton of coal mined when the data for opencast mines without beneficiation plants and total extraction mines with beneficiation plant are excluded.

It is also interesting to note (see Figure 26 and Table 7) that specific river water usage ranged from 10-20 l/ton for mines without beneficiation plants and was an order of magnitude higher at 120-150 l/ton for mines with beneficiation plants.

11.4 Usage of Ground Water

The reported usage of ground water varied significantly between the different types of mining activities as shown in Figure 27 below.

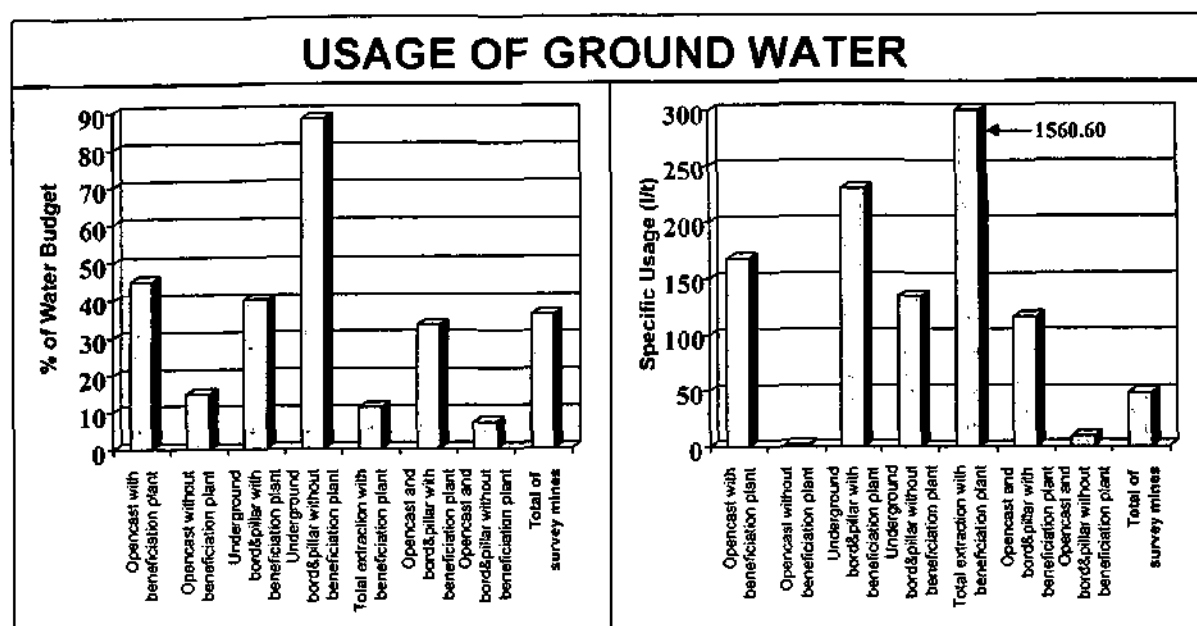


Figure 27: Usage of ground water

The importance of the ground water as a contributor to the overall water budget varied from 7 to 88 percent while the specific ground water usage varied from 2 to 230 l/ton of coal mined. As with the other categories of water usage, when the data for opencast mines without beneficiation plants and total extraction mines with beneficiation plant are excluded, the average industry specific usage of ground water increases from 47.55 to 160.38 l/ton of coal mined. There are no correlations between ground water usage and type of mining or presence of beneficiation plant.

11.5 Usage of Water from Unspecified Sources

The reported usage of water from unspecified sources for the different types of mining activities are shown in Figure 28 below.

An accurate water balance should have no apportionment of water to unspecified sources. Data obtained during the survey and subsequently manipulated by the research team indicated that on average, for all the survey mines, 16 % of the incoming water budget was unallocated. The average specific water usage from unspecified sources also increases from 21.56 to 62.18 l/ton of coal mined when the data for opencast mines without beneficiation plants and total extraction mines with beneficiation plant are excluded.

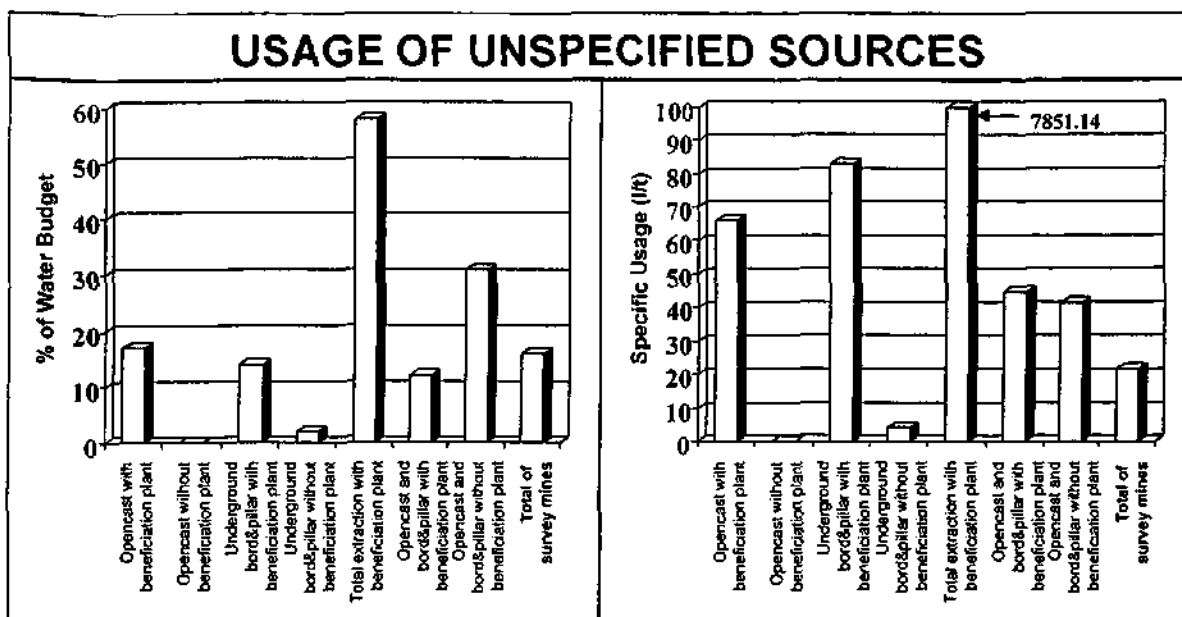


Figure 28: Usage of water from unspecified sources

11.6 Human Consumption of Water

The reported human consumption of water varied between 1 and 8 percent of the total water budget for the different types of mining activities as shown in Figure 29 below.

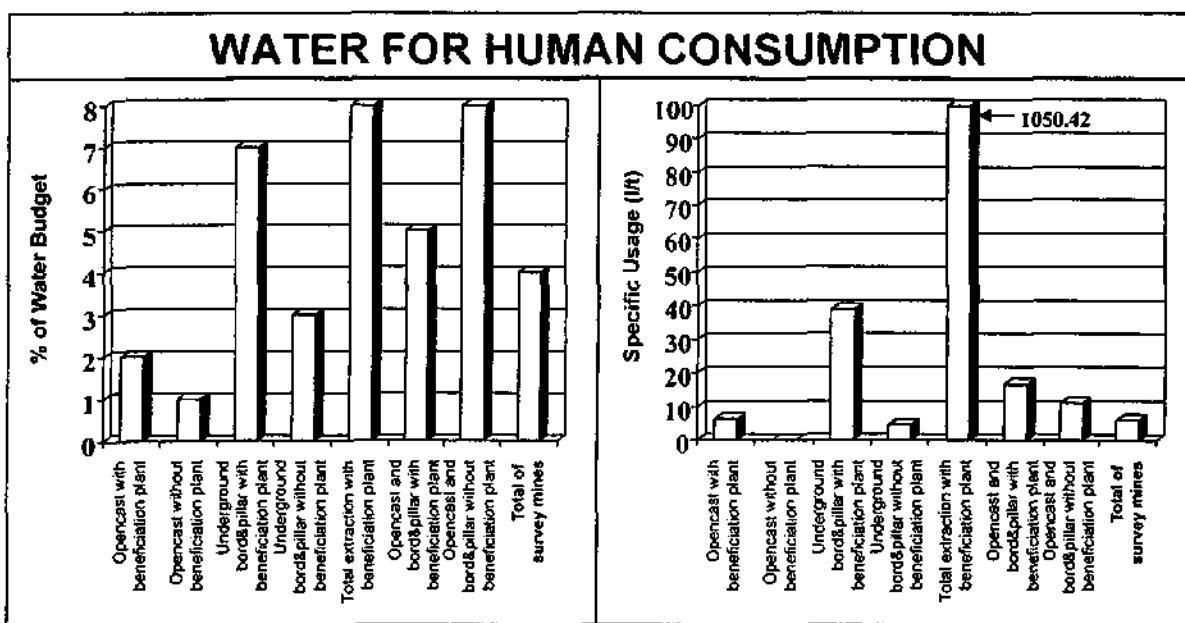


Figure 29: Human consumption of water

The average specific water usage for human consumption is 5.96 l/ton of coal, increasing to 18.94 l/ton of coal when the data for opencast mines without beneficiation plants and total extraction mines with beneficiation plant are excluded. As discussed previously, the single mine within the category "total extraction with beneficiation plant" clearly has a major problem with its reported water balance with a specific human consumption value of 1050 l/ton of coal mined.

11.7 Water Discharge to Rivers

The reported water discharge to rivers varied substantially between the different types of mining activities as shown in Figure 30 below.

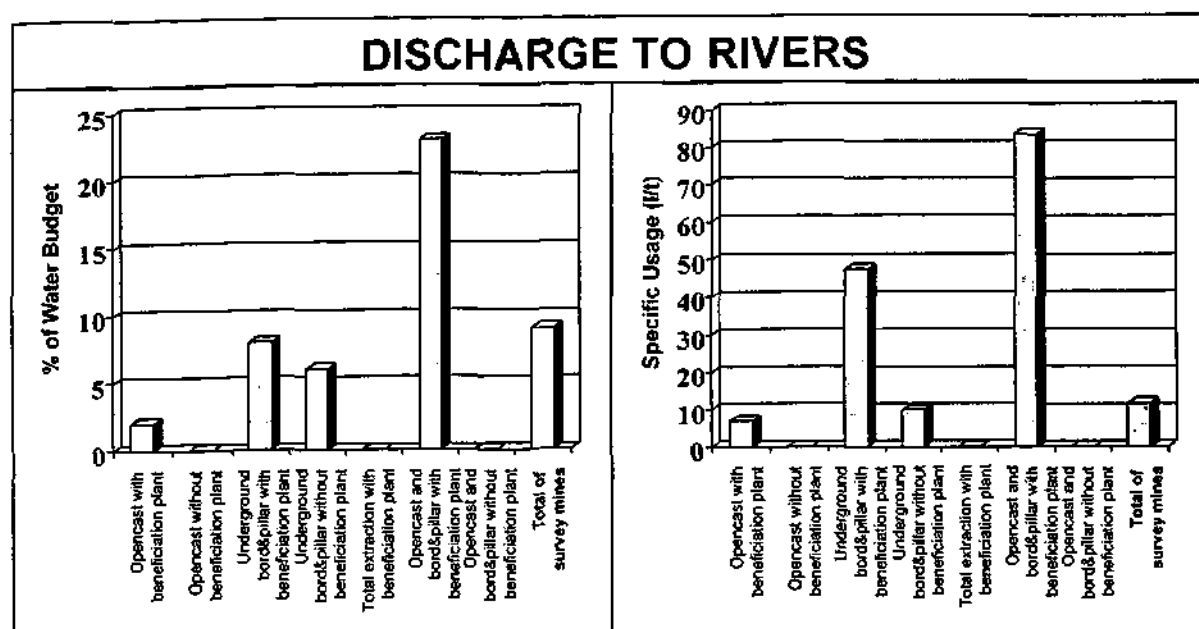


Figure 30: Discharge of water to rivers

While many mines reported no discharge of water to rivers, others used the rivers as a major sink of water. A study of the water balances in Appendix B will indicate that 28 of the 41 survey mines reported zero discharge to rivers in their water balances. Those mines that did discharge to rivers generally tended to use the river as the major sink for discharged water. On average, the survey mines discharged 11.56 l/ton of coal mined to receiving surface watercourses which increases to 40.96 l/ton when the data for opencast mines without beneficiation plants and total extraction mines with beneficiation plant are excluded.

11.8 Moisture on Product and Discard

The reported/calculated losses of water to surface moisture on coal and coarse varied substantially between the different types of mining activities as shown in Figure 31 below.

It must be pointed out that it is an artifact of the way the water balances were constructed for this project that all mines without beneficiation plants show a zero allocation to moisture on the coal. For these mines, this portion of the water budget will be allocated to unspecified sinks. For the mines with beneficiation plants, this component of the water balance was generally omitted by the mines themselves and the reported values are based on calculations by the research team who assumed a surface moisture equivalent to 6% of the dry weight of washed coal and coarse discard. This suggests that the calculated average specific water usage of 6.34 l/ton of coal mined should increase to around 60 l/ton when data for the mines without beneficiation plants are included.

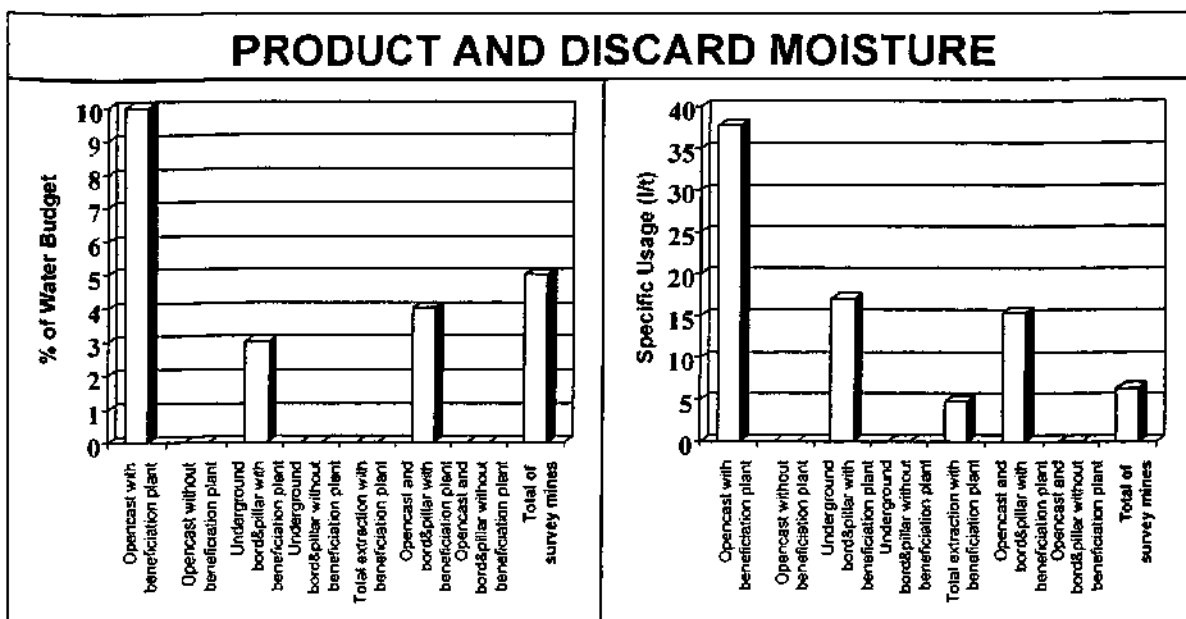


Figure 31: Product and discard moisture

11.9 Water Lost to Evaporation

The reported losses of water to evaporation varied substantially between the different types of mining activities as shown in Figure 32 below.

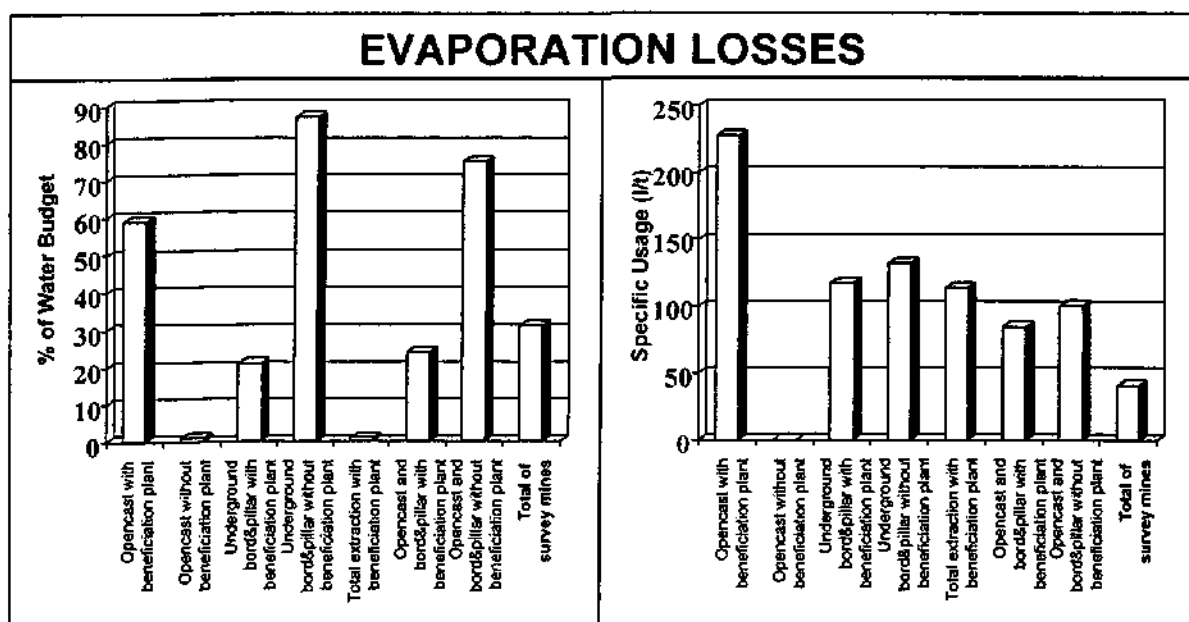


Figure 32: Evaporation losses

Reported evaporation varied between the different types of mines from an unrealistically low 1 % of water budget to a very optimistic 87%. It has been observed that many mines ignore the effect of seepage losses from water storage facilities, slurry dams and discard dumps and readily ascribe the missing water to evaporation. A review of the balances shown in Appendix B indicates that individual mines report evaporation as accounting for anywhere between 0 and 95 % of their water sinks, with both extremes being unrealistic. The average specific

water loss to evaporation for all the survey mines is 41 l/ton of coal mined, increasing to 144.76 l/ton of coal mined when the data for opencast mines without beneficiation plants and total extraction mines with beneficiation plant are excluded.

Generally speaking, most of the coal mines did not calculate evaporation in any scientifically defensible manner and unexplained or unaccounted for losses were often simply allocated to evaporation.

11.10 Water Discharged to Unspecified Sinks

The reported losses of water to unspecified sinks is unacceptably high and was found to vary between 4 and 98% of the total water budget as shown in Figure 33 below.

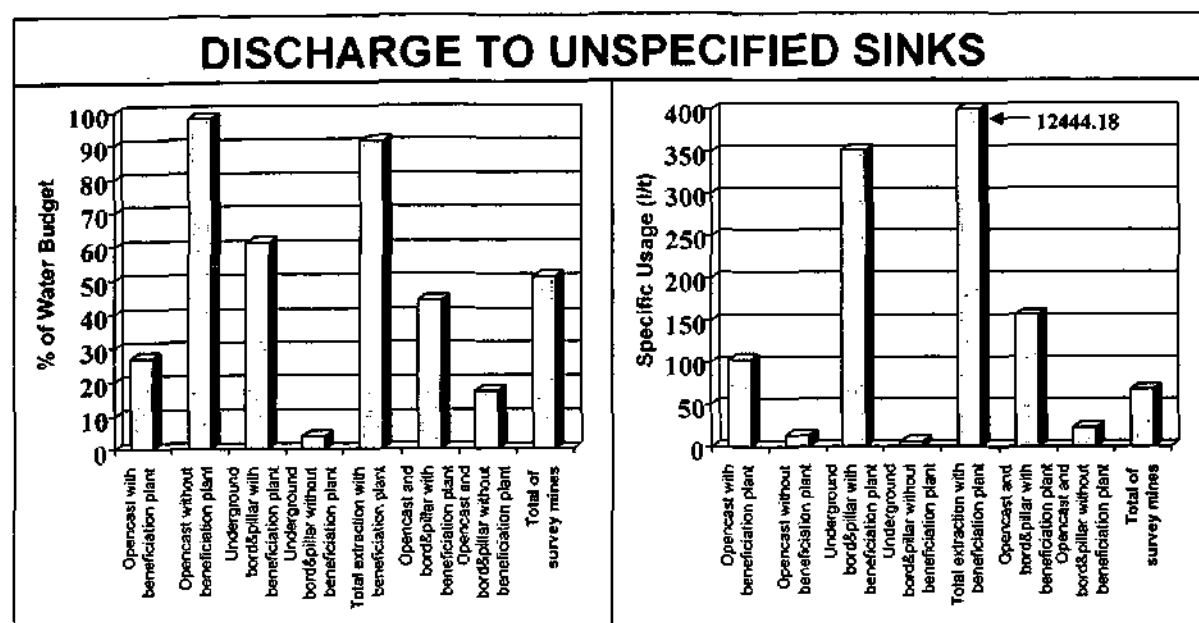


Figure 33: Discharge to unspecified sinks

On average, for all the survey mines, 51% of the water discharged by the mines was unallocated - indicating serious problems with water balances and water management on these mines. It is not possible for a mine to control and manage its water impacts if it is not known where the water is being discharged. The apportionment to unspecified sinks is also almost four times higher than the unspecified sources, suggesting that management of water intake (which often costs money) is considered more important than management of water discharge.

11.11 Total Water Sources and Sinks

The variations in specific total water usage between the different types of mines, with and without beneficiation plants is shown in Figure 34 below.

The average total specific water usage across all the survey mines was 132.58 l of water per ton of coal mined. When the data for opencast mines without beneficiation plants and total extraction mines with beneficiation plant are excluded, the average total specific water usage increases more than threefold to 410.69 l/ton of coal mined. The one total extraction mine with a beneficiation plant reported an unrealistic specific water usage of 13613 l/ton of coal mined - suggesting either a very poor water balance and/or very poor water management.

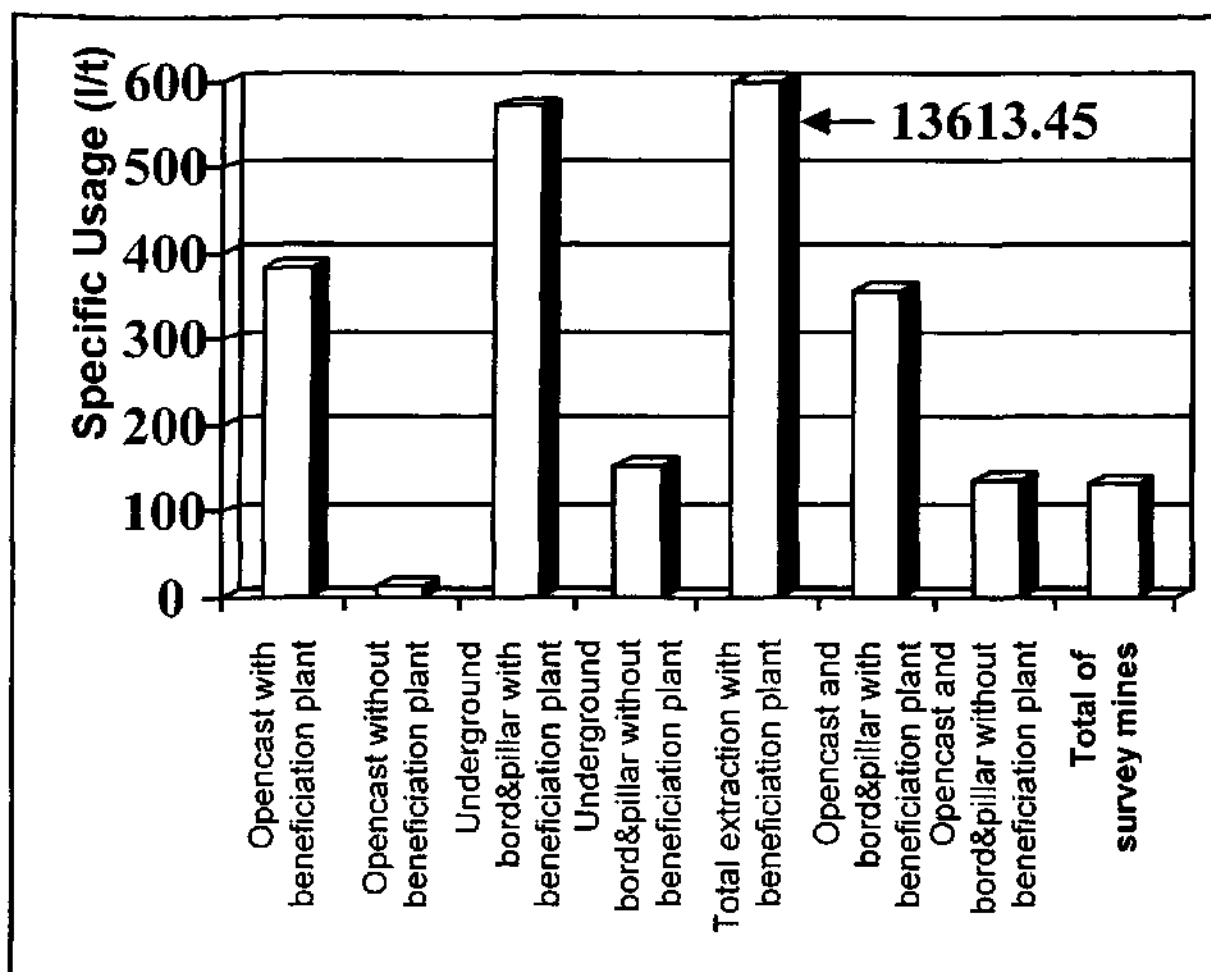


Figure 34: Total water sources and sinks

12. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Data have been acquired from forty-one mines out of a total of sixty-five operating coal mines, representing 66%. However, the mines incorporated in the database accounts for 88% of the total South African coal production. The results emanating from this investigation are therefore considered to be statistically representative of the South African coal mining industry. However, the constitution of a proper generic database for the South African coal mining industry was hampered by the omission of crucial data in the mine water balances. For example, only 25% of the mines included rainfall and seepage when calculating their water balance. Furthermore, evaporation was reported by 60% of the mines in the database.

The lack of good water balance data for the survey coal mines makes it impossible to make meaningful conclusions about water usage patterns on the coal mines. The primary conclusions that must be drawn however are the following:

1. In general terms, the state of water balances at coal mines is poor with insufficient detail being provided to enable a proper assessment of the status of water management at these mines. It must, therefore, be concluded (on the basis that one cannot manage what you cannot measure) that there is an equivalent problem with the status of water management on coal mines.
2. The primary problems with the water balances are an inadequate consideration of the effects of seepage and evaporation losses and the effect of rainwater as an input to the water balance.
3. The inadequacy of the water balances is most pronounced with regard to the losses of water from the mine water reticulation systems with 51% of all water losses being unaccounted for.
4. There are a few exceptions to the above generalisations where mines, although not perfect, have made significant effort to develop detailed water balances that are being refined and improved upon on an ongoing basis.
5. The lack of appropriate water balances is believed to be a serious hindrance to effective mine water management that needs to be addressed and remedied as a matter of priority.

No recommendations are made for further studies on water balances at coal mines although the discussion contained in this report should clearly motivate for the mines and authorities to expend considerable more effort in ensuring that proper water (and salt) balances are developed for the mines. A special need can be identified to ensure that the effects of seepage, evaporation and rainwater are included in the water balance. Upgrading of mine water balances is not a research topic and must be undertaken as an operational issue by the mines themselves.

It is believed, however, that mines will benefit greatly from the ready availability of a user-friendly computerised water and salt balance model that is capable of being easily updated as and when mine water reticulation systems change.

APPENDIX 1:
COAL MINE SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

COAL MINE SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

Name of mine.....
 Name of person completing questionnaire.....
 Nearest town.....
 Name of catchment.....
 Monthly production.....
 Monthly discard production.....
 Monthly slurry production.....
 Current age of mine.....
 Expected remaining life of mine.....
 Type of mining carried out (u/g, o/cast, etc.).....
 EMPR / water permit available?.....

2. MINE WATER BALANCE

Please complete the following conceptual mine water balance, indicating flow rates of the different streams and treatment applied.

WATER SOURCES	TREATMENT	WATER USERS	TREATMENT	EFFLUENT SINKS
1. BOARD WATER				A) RIVER/STREAM
		a) DOMESTIC, HOUSES, OFFICES		
2. RIVER WATER				B) SEEPAGE, GROUNDWATER
		b) PLANT WATER		
3. BOREHOLE WATER				C) EVAPORATION
		c) UNDERGROUND MINING WATER		
4. UNDERGROUND OR PIT WATER				D) IRRIGATION
		d) ROAD WETTING		
5. RAINFALL				E)
		e)		

*TREATMENT

(C) Floc/ clarification
 (P) pH adjustment
 (T) Sewage plant

(F) Filtration
 (D) Disinfection
 (S) Softening

3. WATER SOURCES

Water sources for all consumers (e.g. drinking, mining, plant process water) based on flow balance shown on page 1

No	Source description	Quality**	Flow
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			

**TDS or Sodium

4. WATER USERS

No	User description	Source**	Flow
a			
b			
c			
d			
e			
f			

** Refer to numbers 1-6 used in Question 3.1 and water balance in Question 2.1

Describe internal water treatment systems for the different users (e.g. pH, settling) as shown in the water balance in Question 2.1

No	Description of system
a	
b	
c	
d	
e	
f	

5. EFFLUENT SYSTEMS

Effluent sources (including diffuse sources) as shown in the water balance of Question 2.1

No	Effluent source description	Sink	Flow
A			
B			
C			
D			
E			
F			

6. MONITORING SYSTEMS

Which water sources, users and effluents are being monitored in terms of flow and quality?

Monitoring	Stream
Flow only	Sources
	Users
	Effluents
	Other
Quality only	Sources
	Users
	Effluents
	Other
Flow & Quality	Sources
	Users
	Effluents
	Other

How frequently are these streams being monitored (grab samples or continuous?)

.....

.....

.....

Is the monitoring programme sufficient to enable the mine to define adequate water and salt balances?

.....

.....

.....

7. MANAGEMENT TOOLS

Can the mine produce a total mine water balance? (ground water, surface hydrology, point sources and users, diffuse sources)

Can the mine produce a total salt balance?

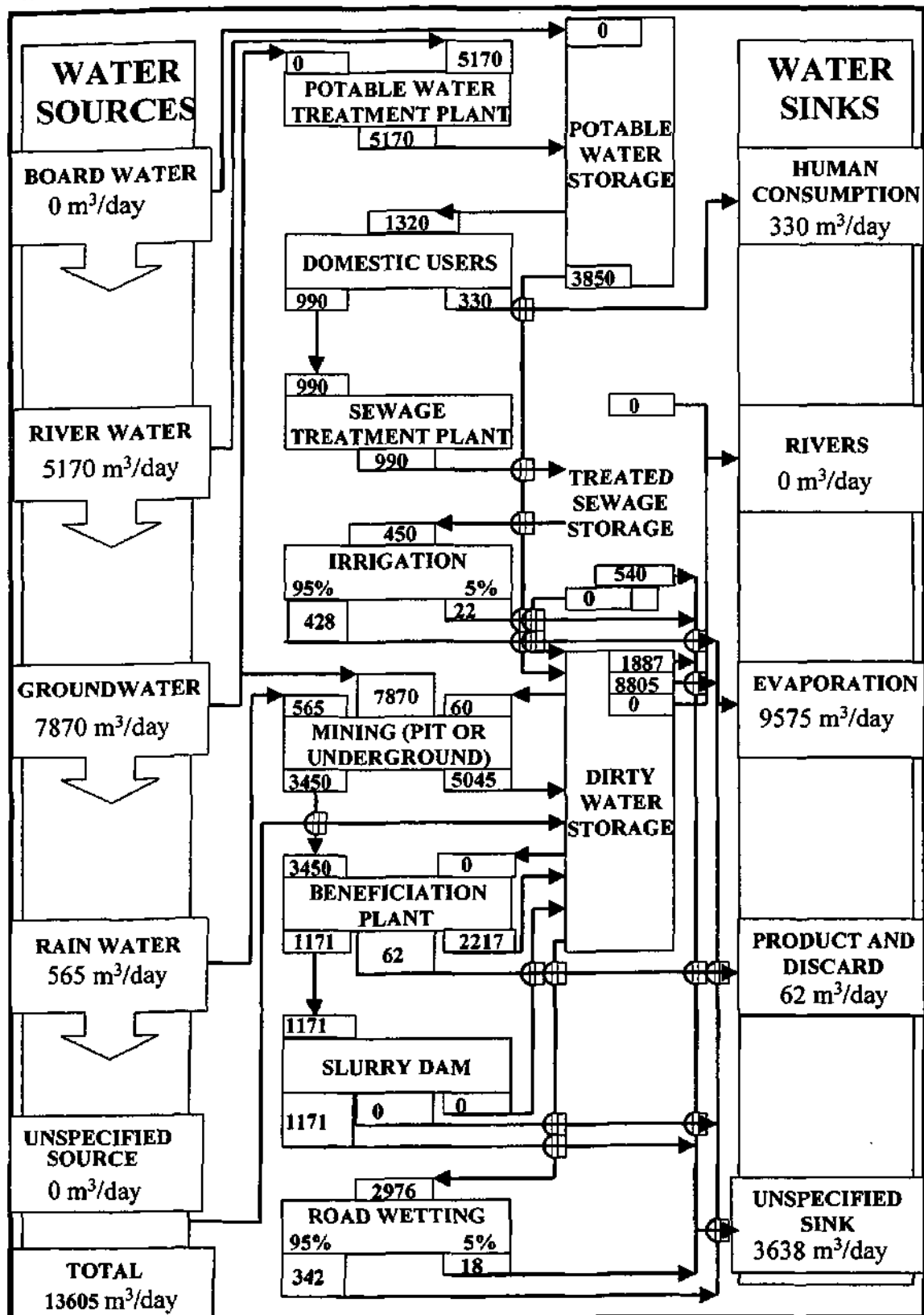
8 GENERAL

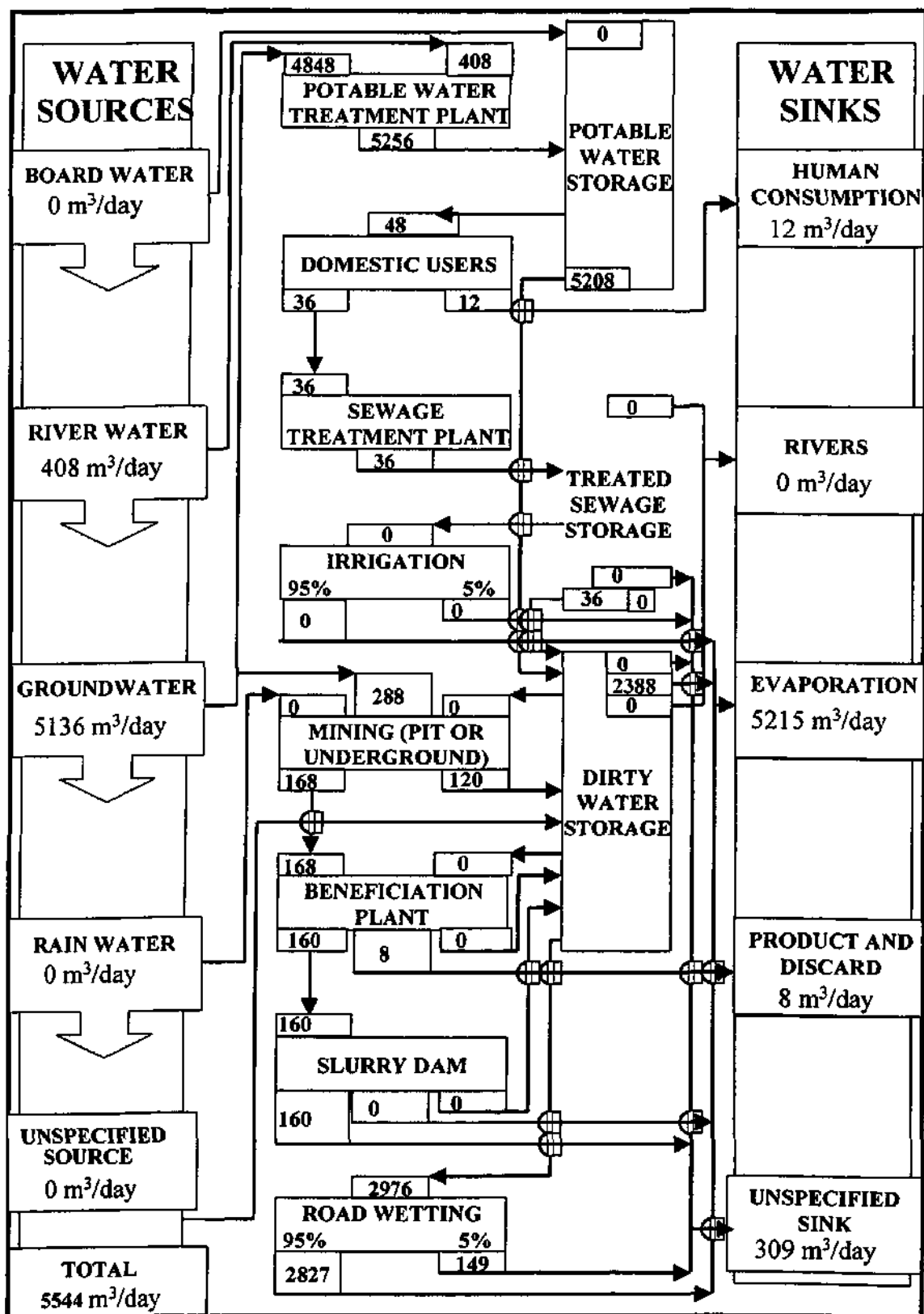
List any issues, problems, needs, solutions etc. not discussed above in relation to Water and Salt balance

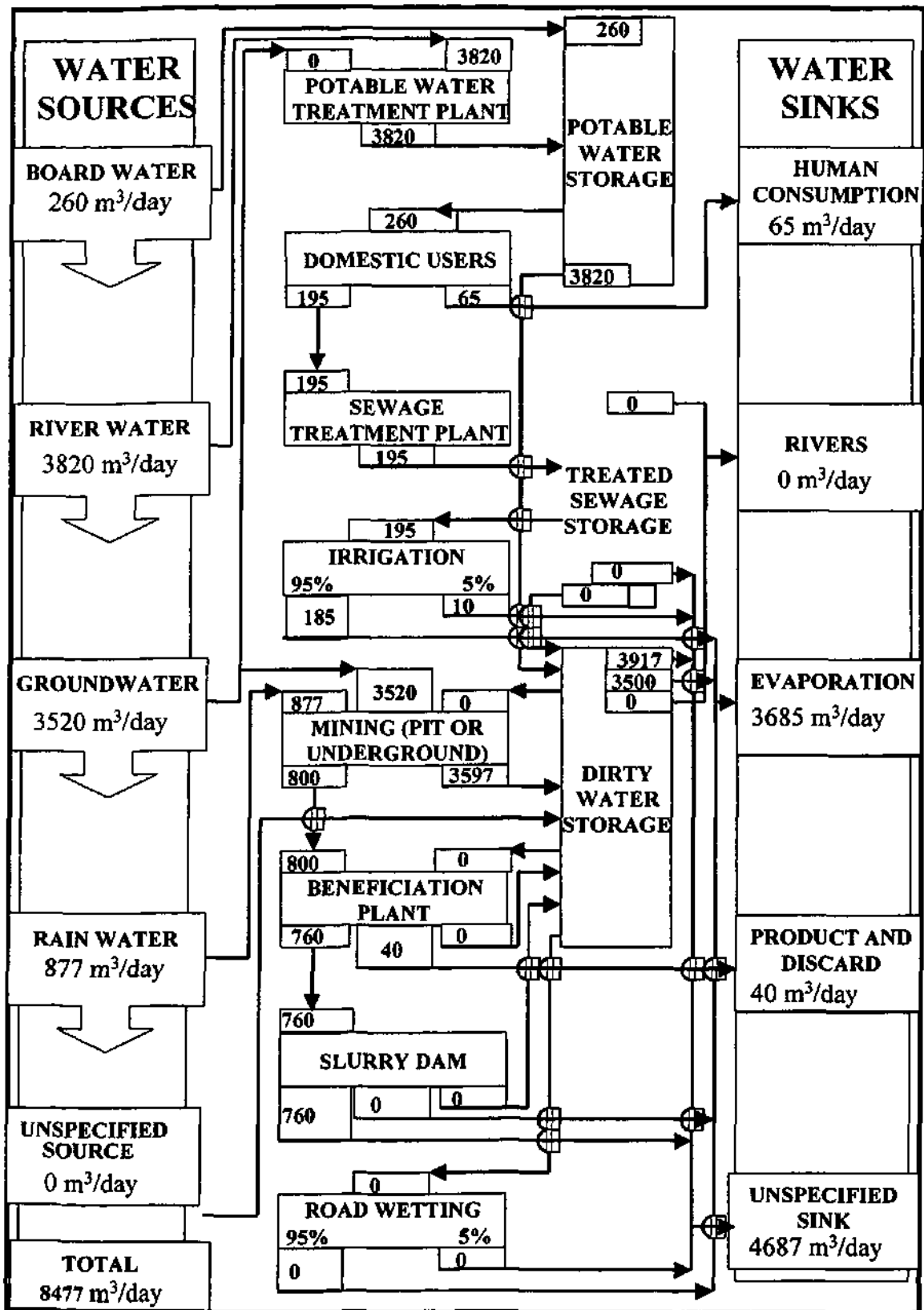
APPENDIX 2: INDIVIDUAL MINE WATER BALANCES

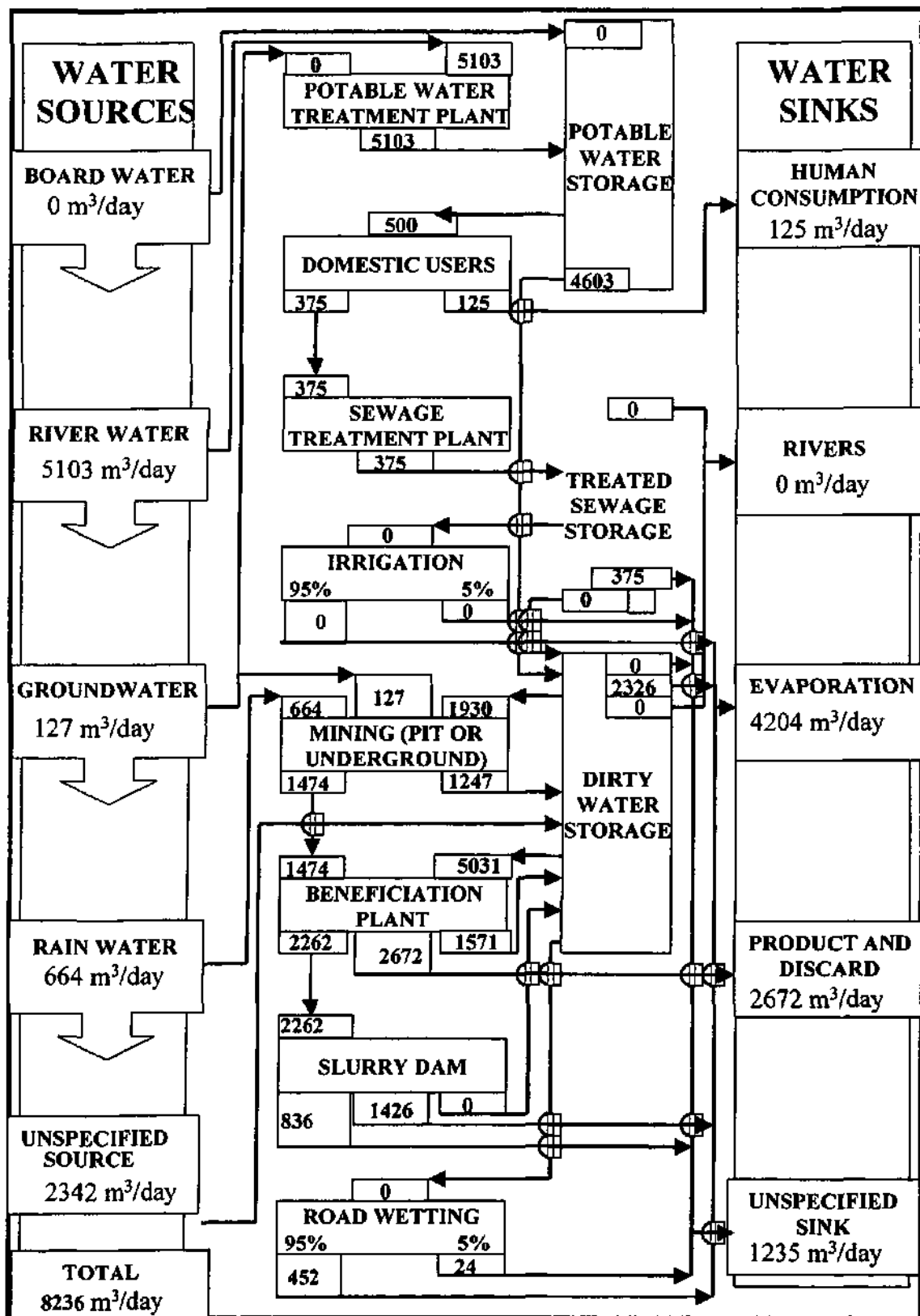
- A1-8: OPEN CAST MINES WITH BENEFICIATION PLANT.**
- B1-2: OPEN CAST MINES WITHOUT BENEFICIATION PLANT.**
- C1-13: UNDERGROUND BORD AND PILLAR MINES WITH BENEFICIATION PLANT.**
- D1-3: UNDERGROUND BORD AND PILLAR MINES WITHOUT BENEFICIATION PLANT.**
- E1: UNDERGROUND TOTAL EXTRACTION MINES WITH BENEFICIATION PLANT.**
- F1-11: OPEN CAST AND UNDERGROUND BORD AND PILLAR MINES WITH BENEFICIATION PLANTS.**
- G1-3: OPEN CAST AND UNDERGROUND BORD AND PILLAR MINES WITHOUT BENEFICIATION PLANTS.**

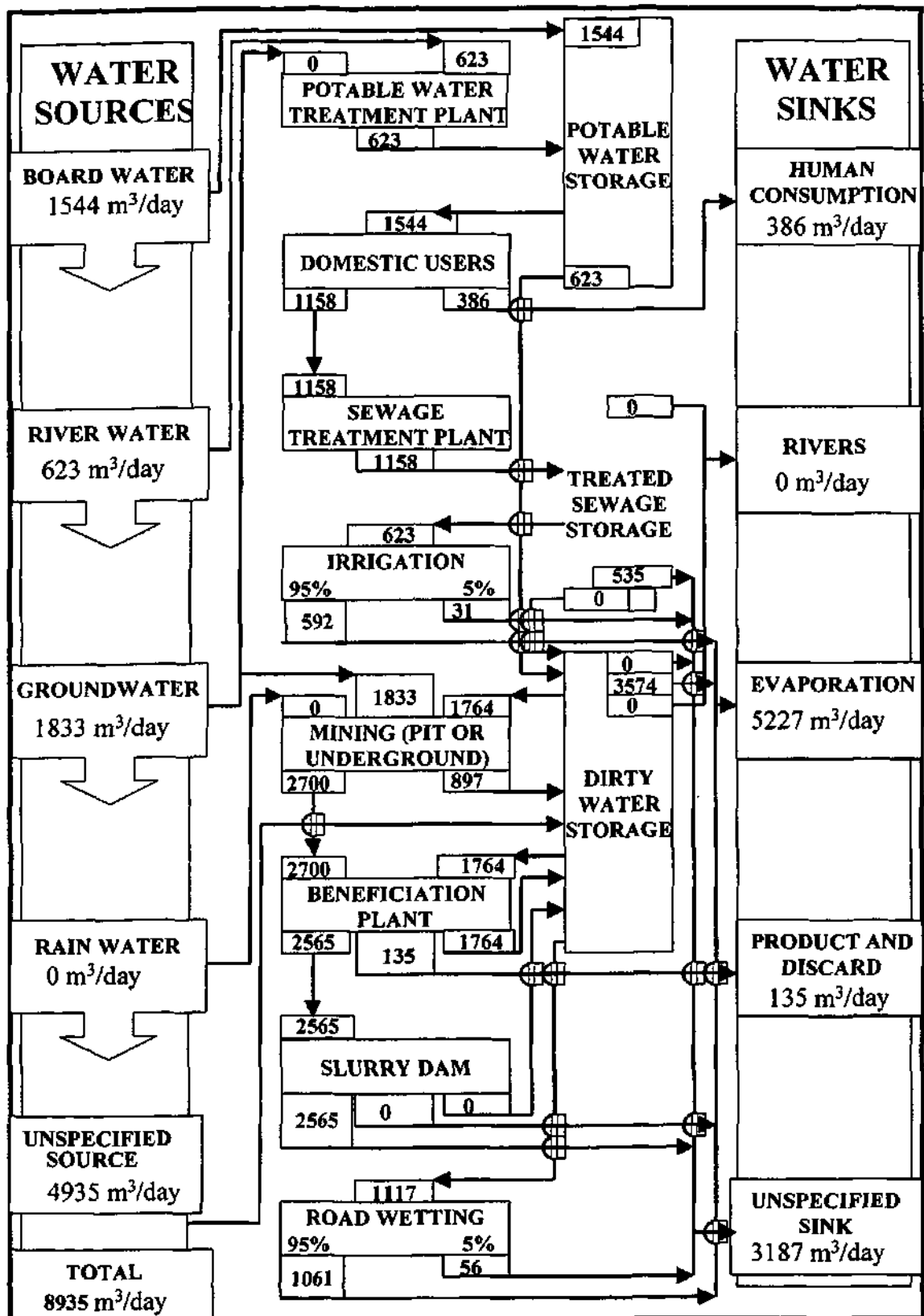
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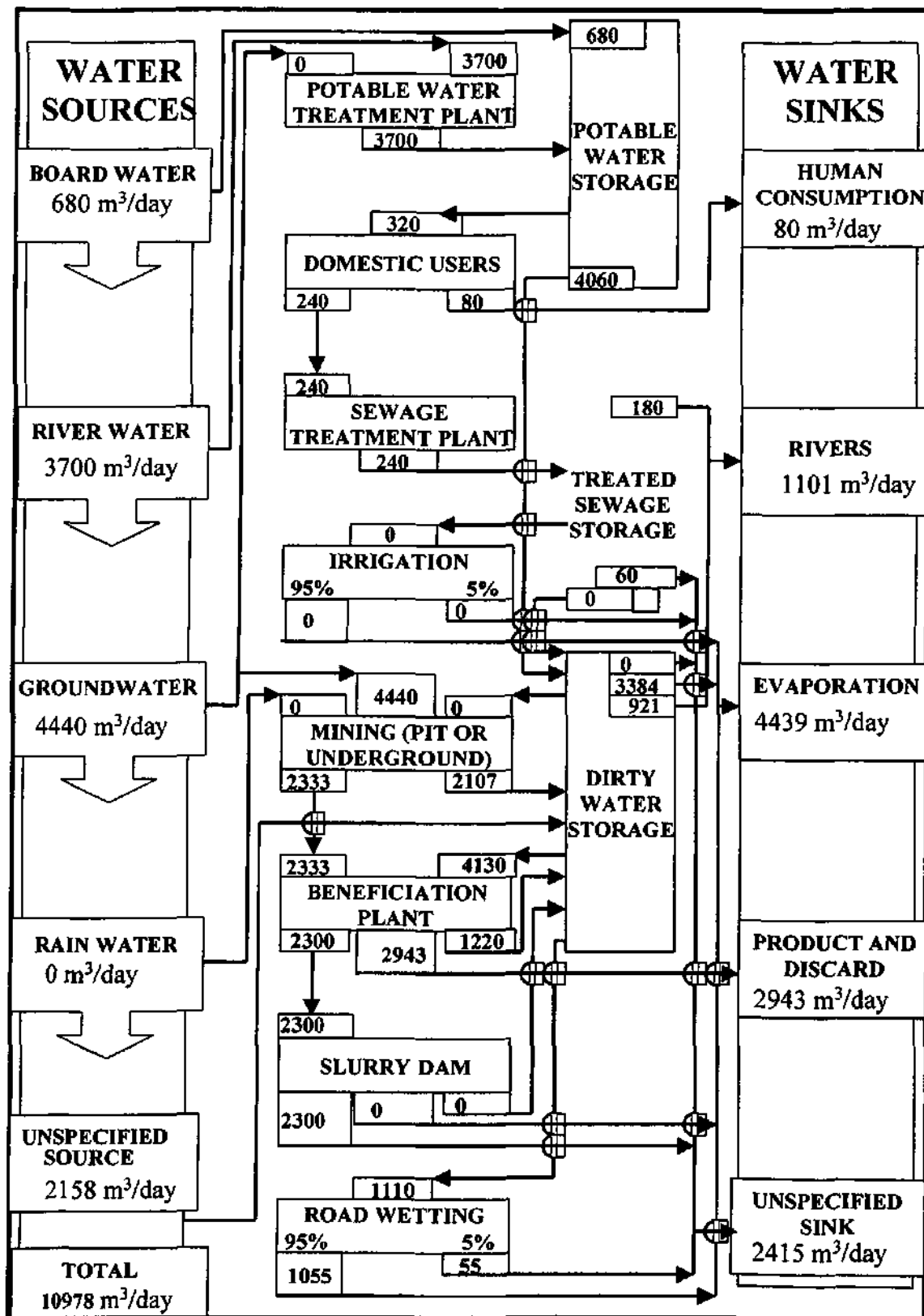


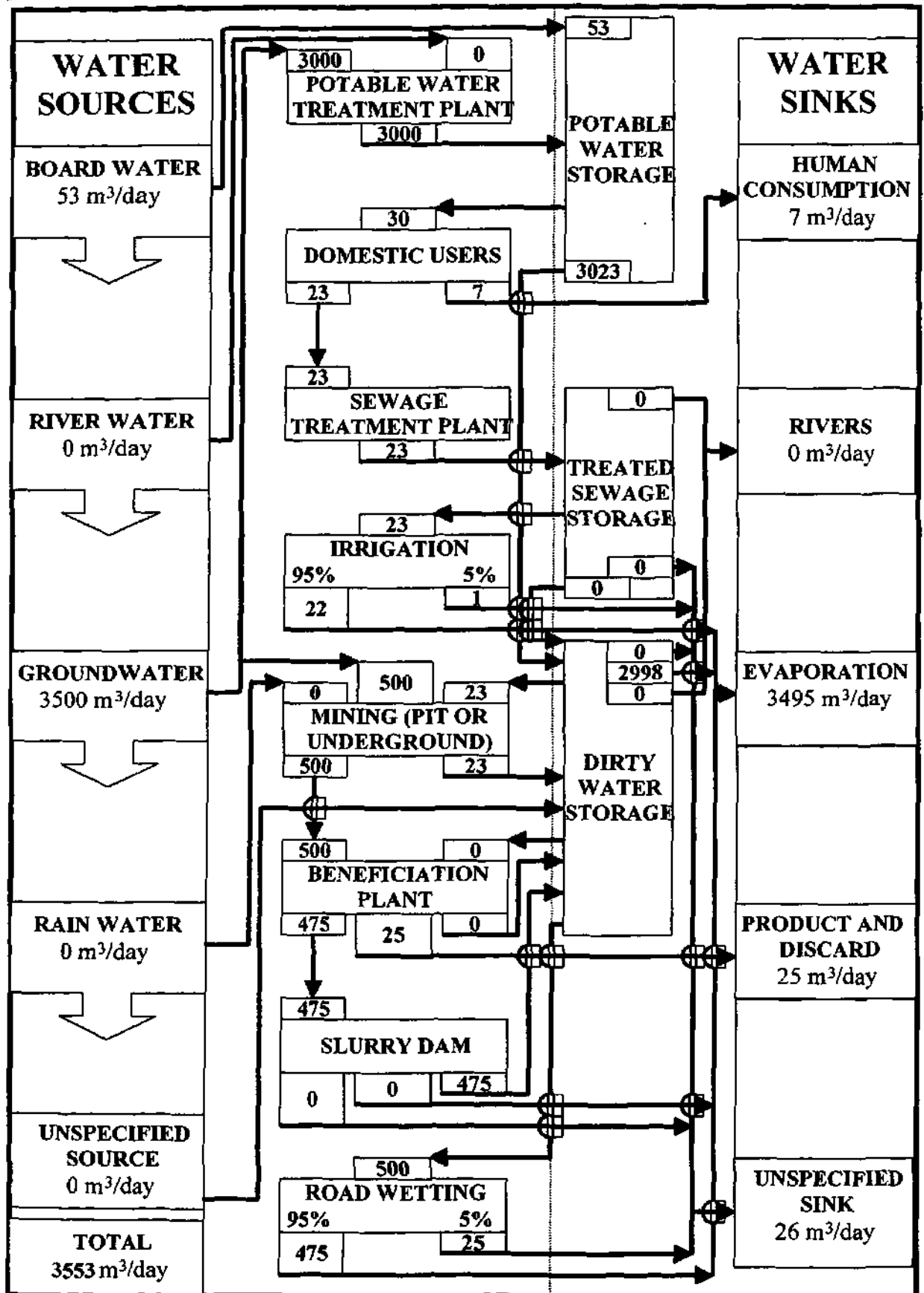


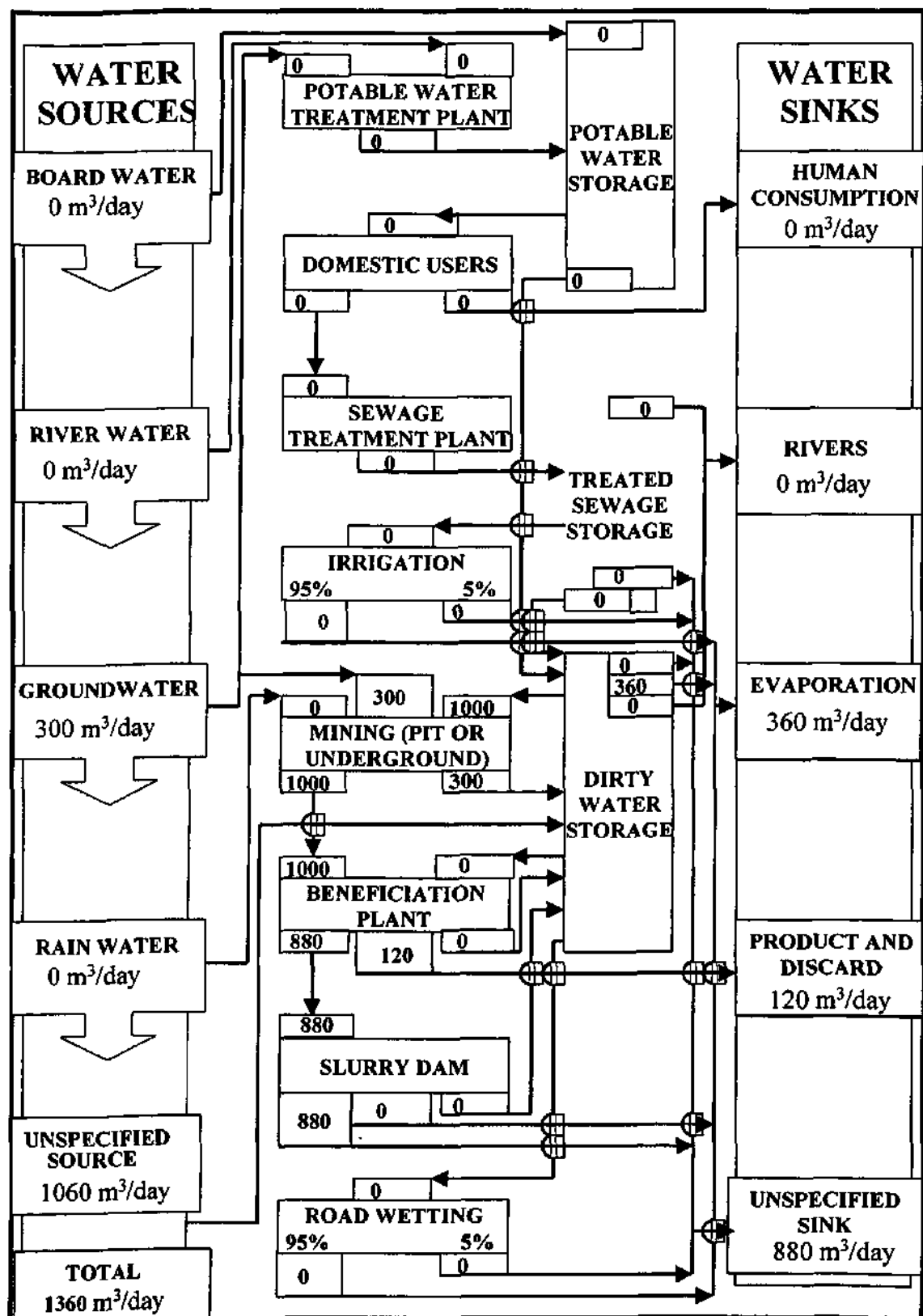




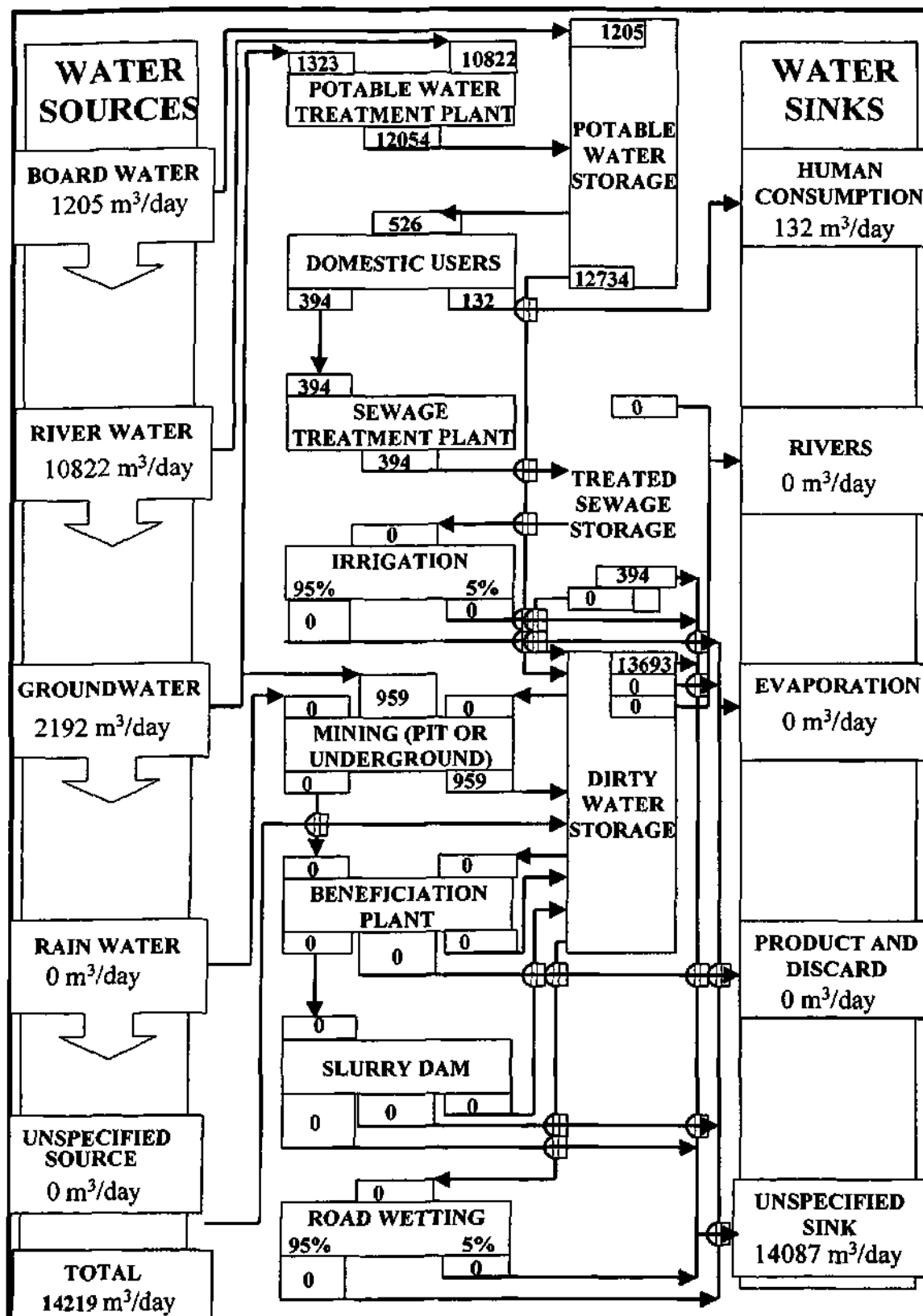


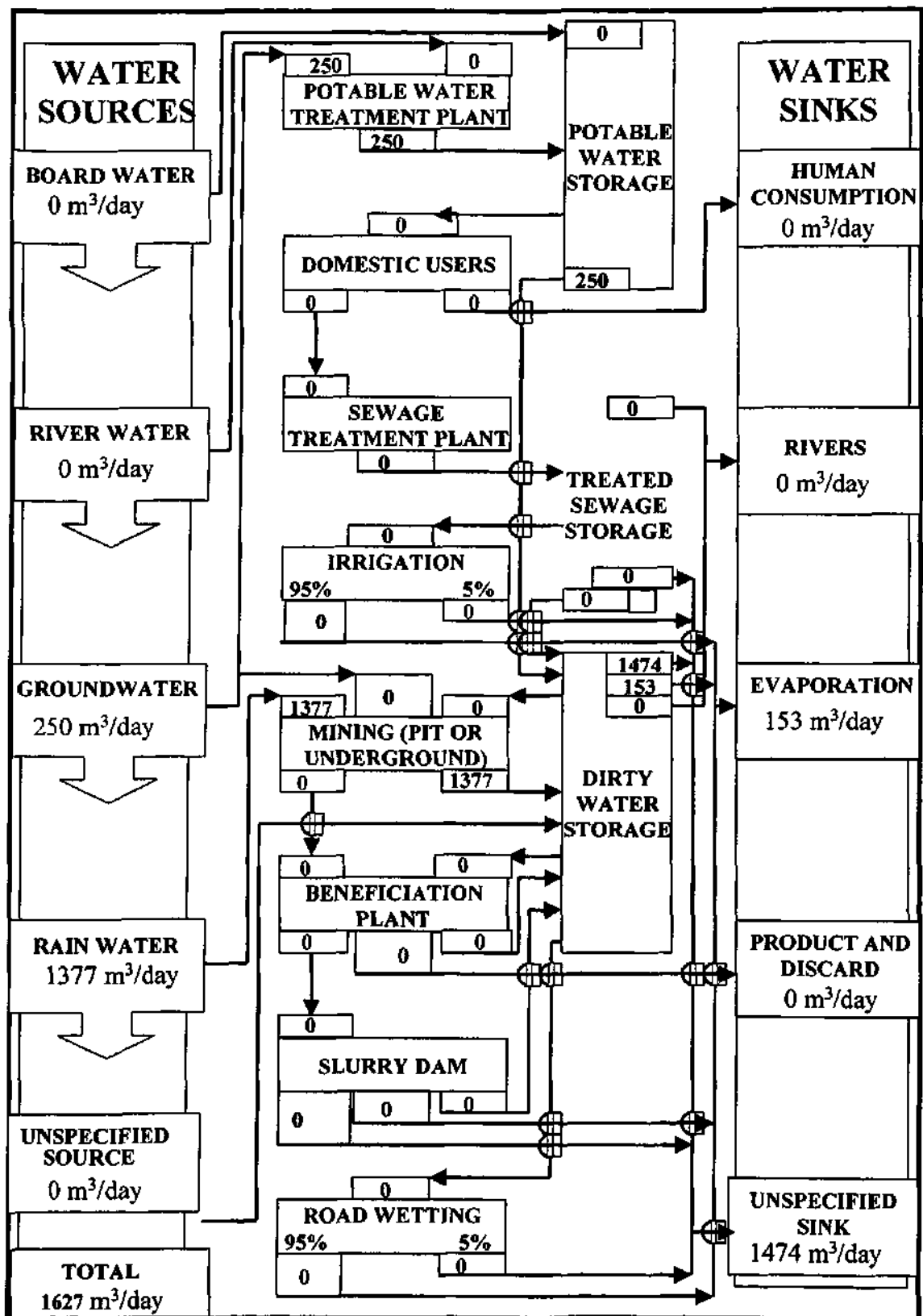




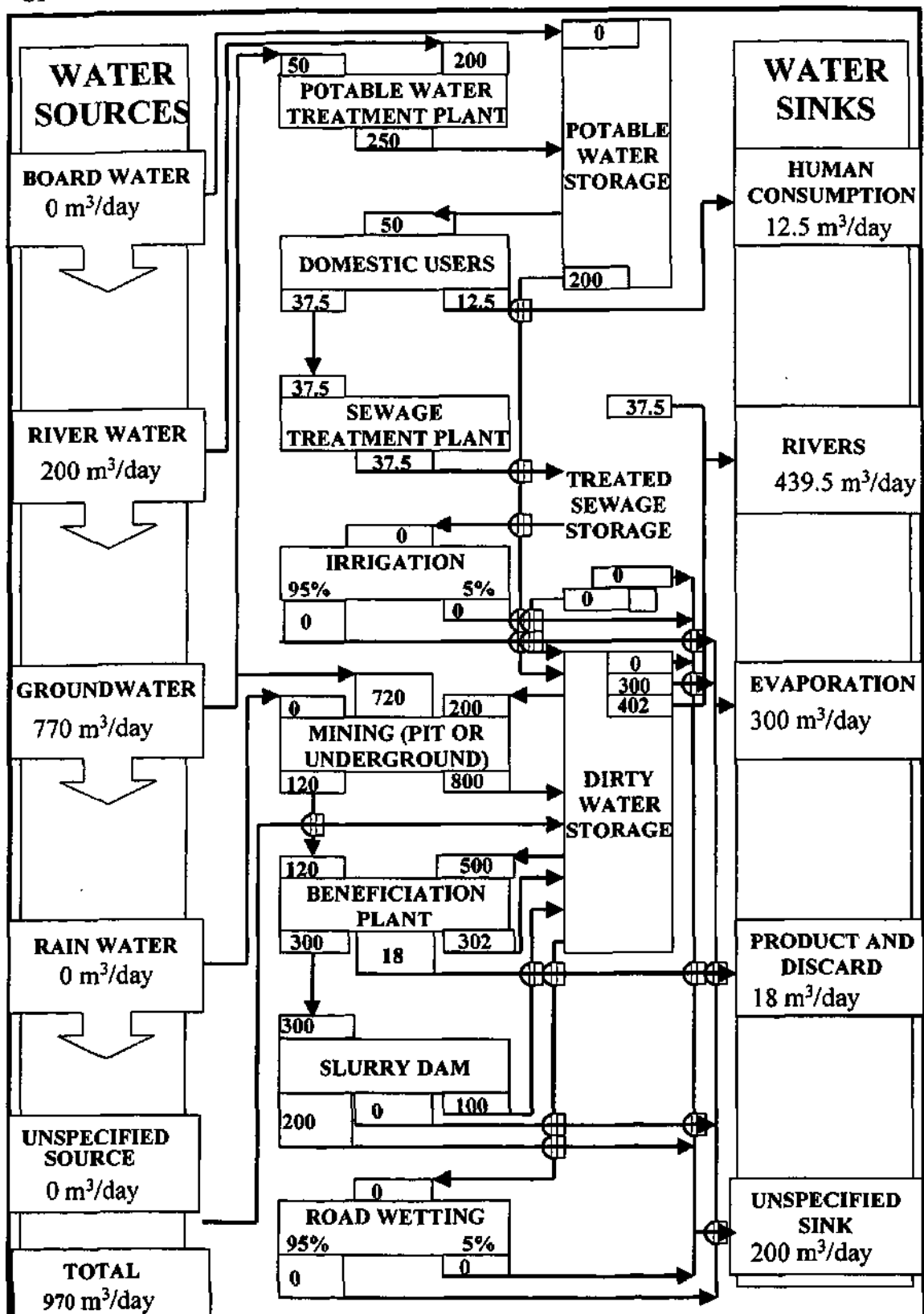


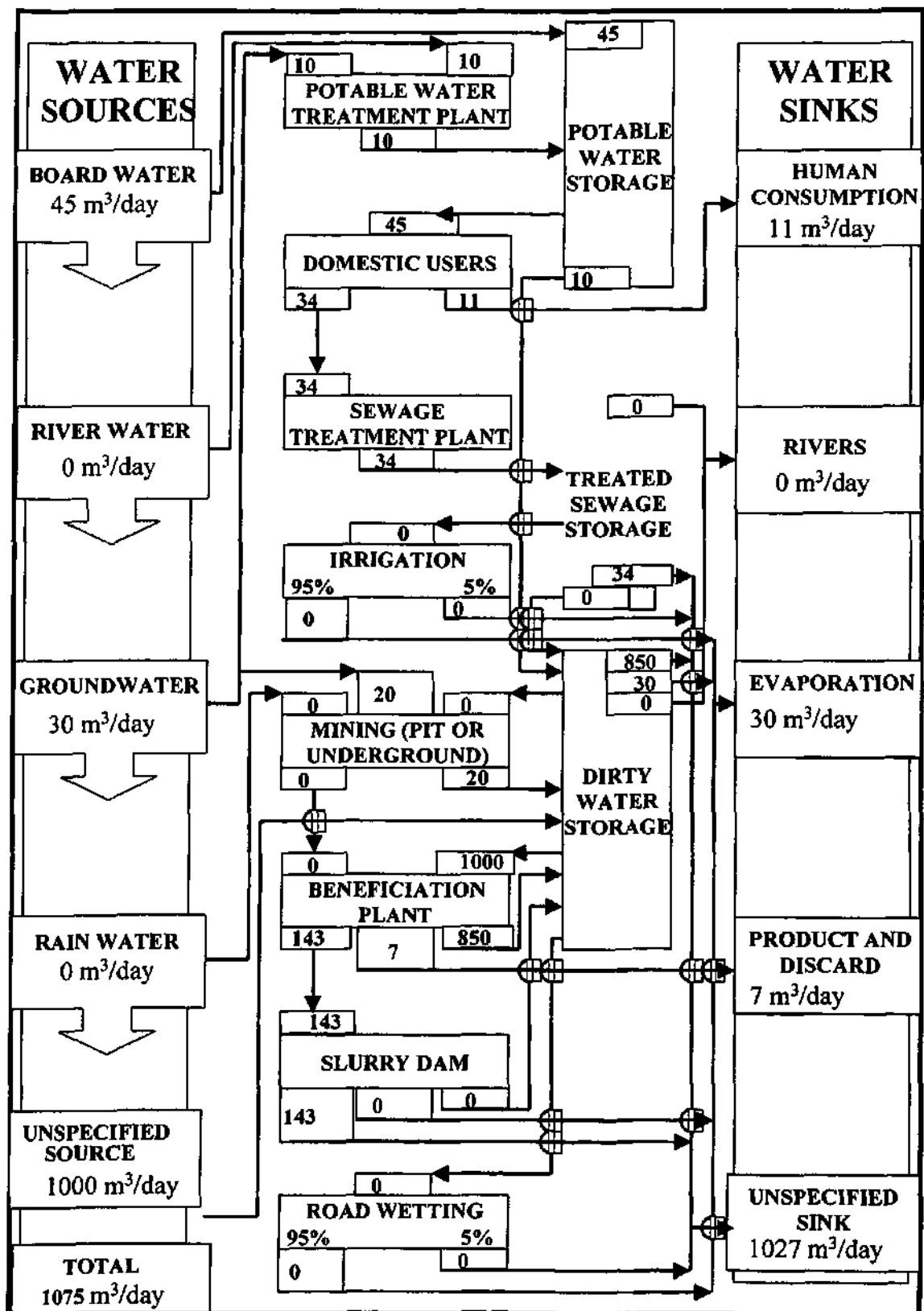
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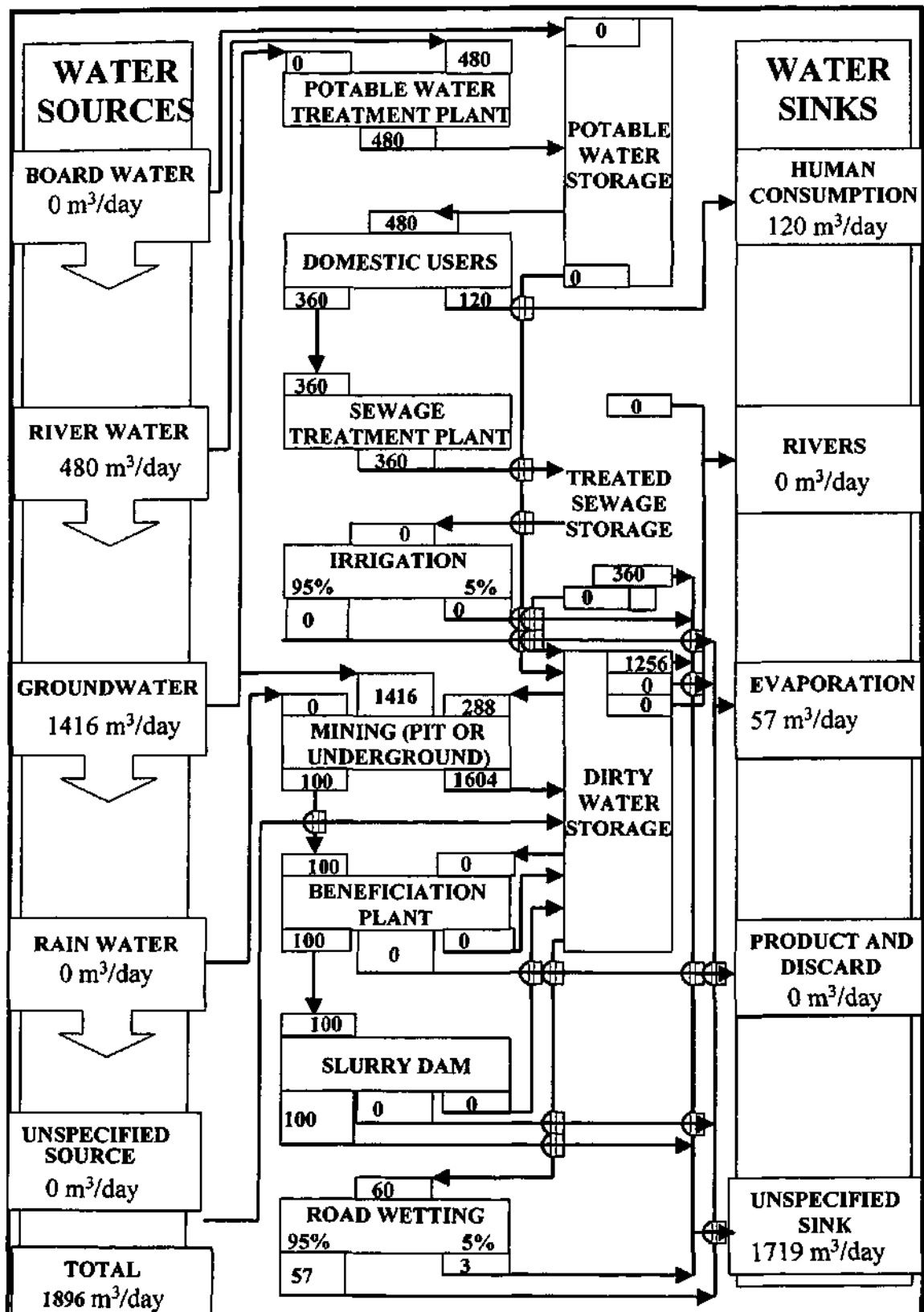




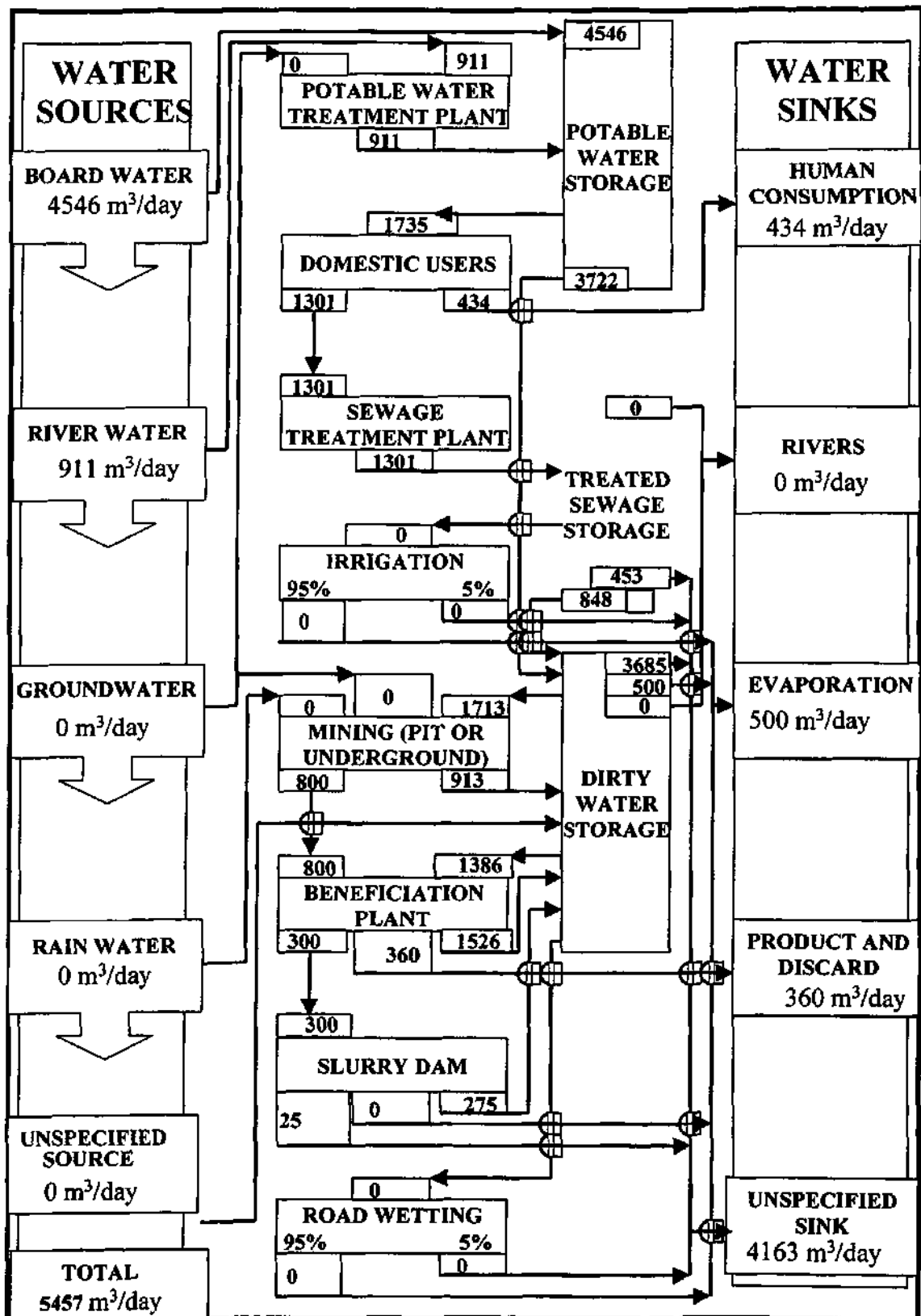
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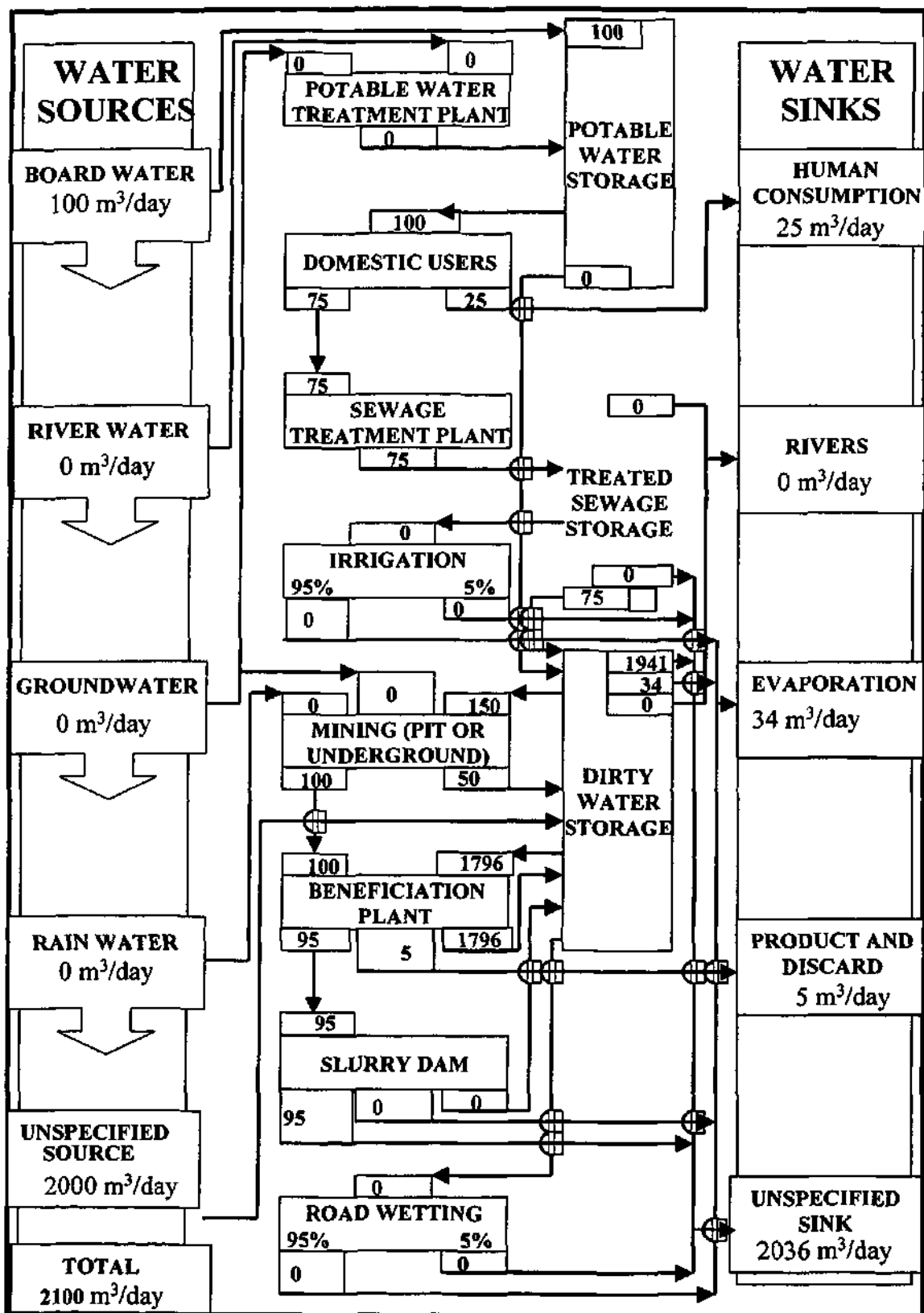


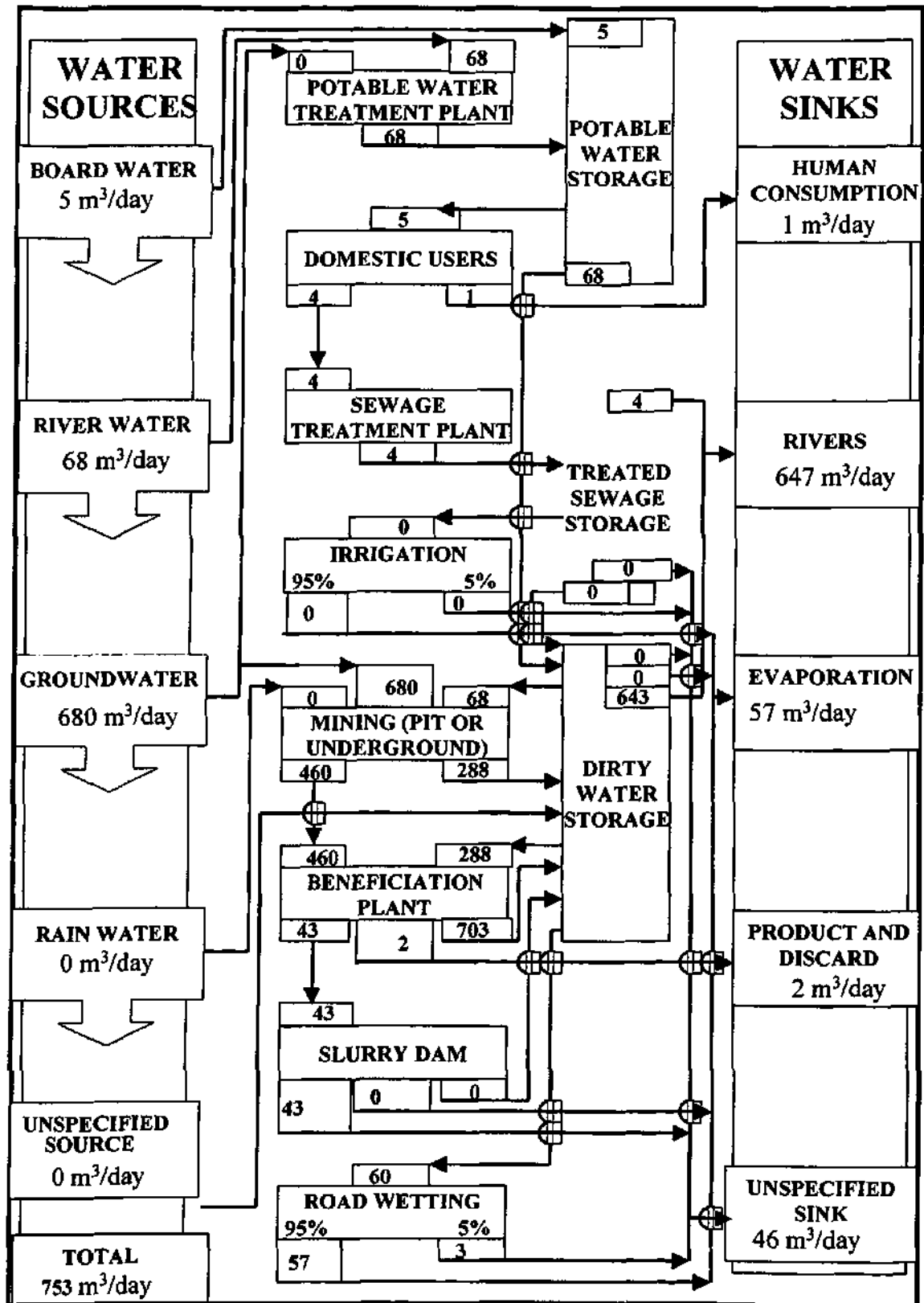


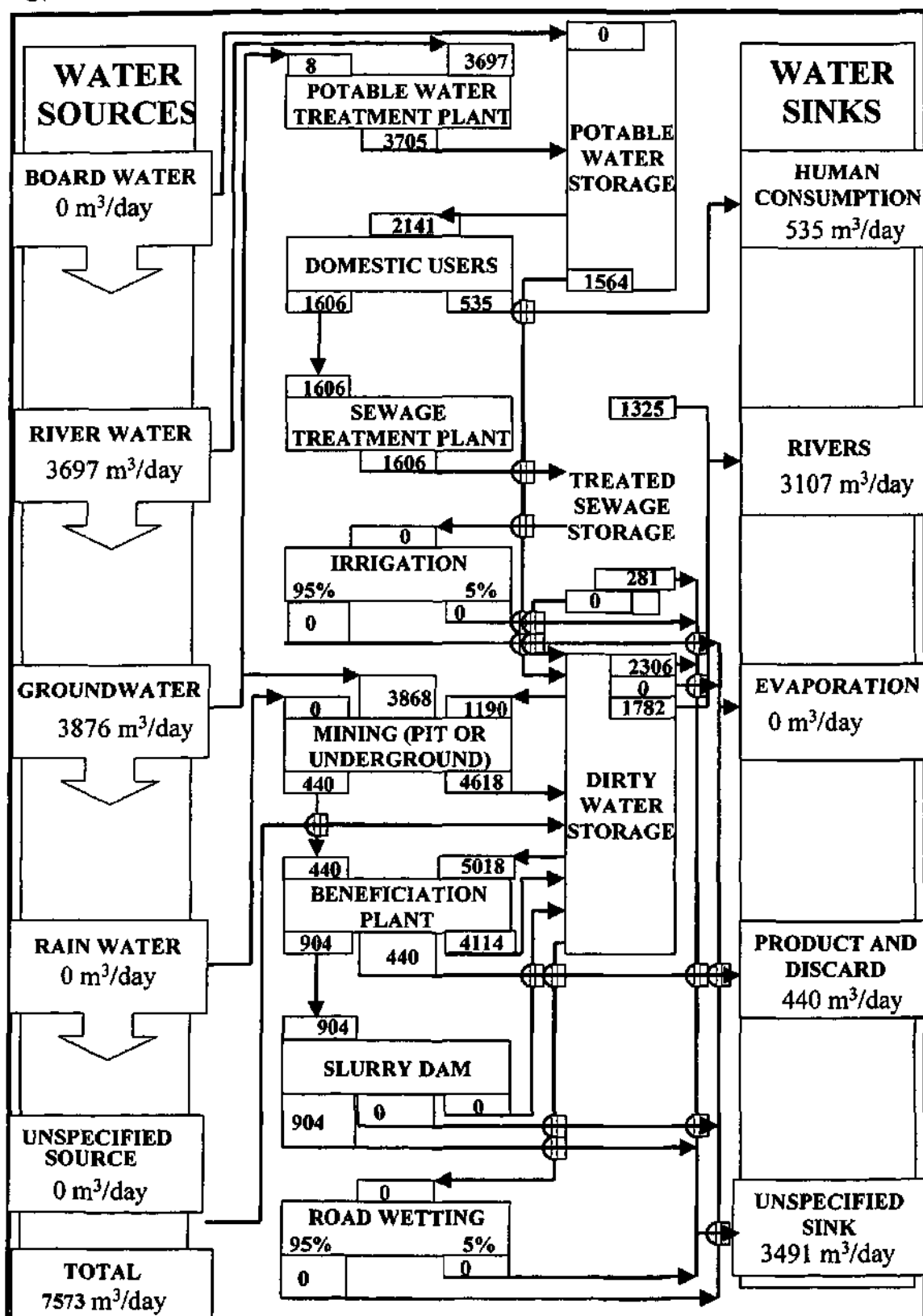


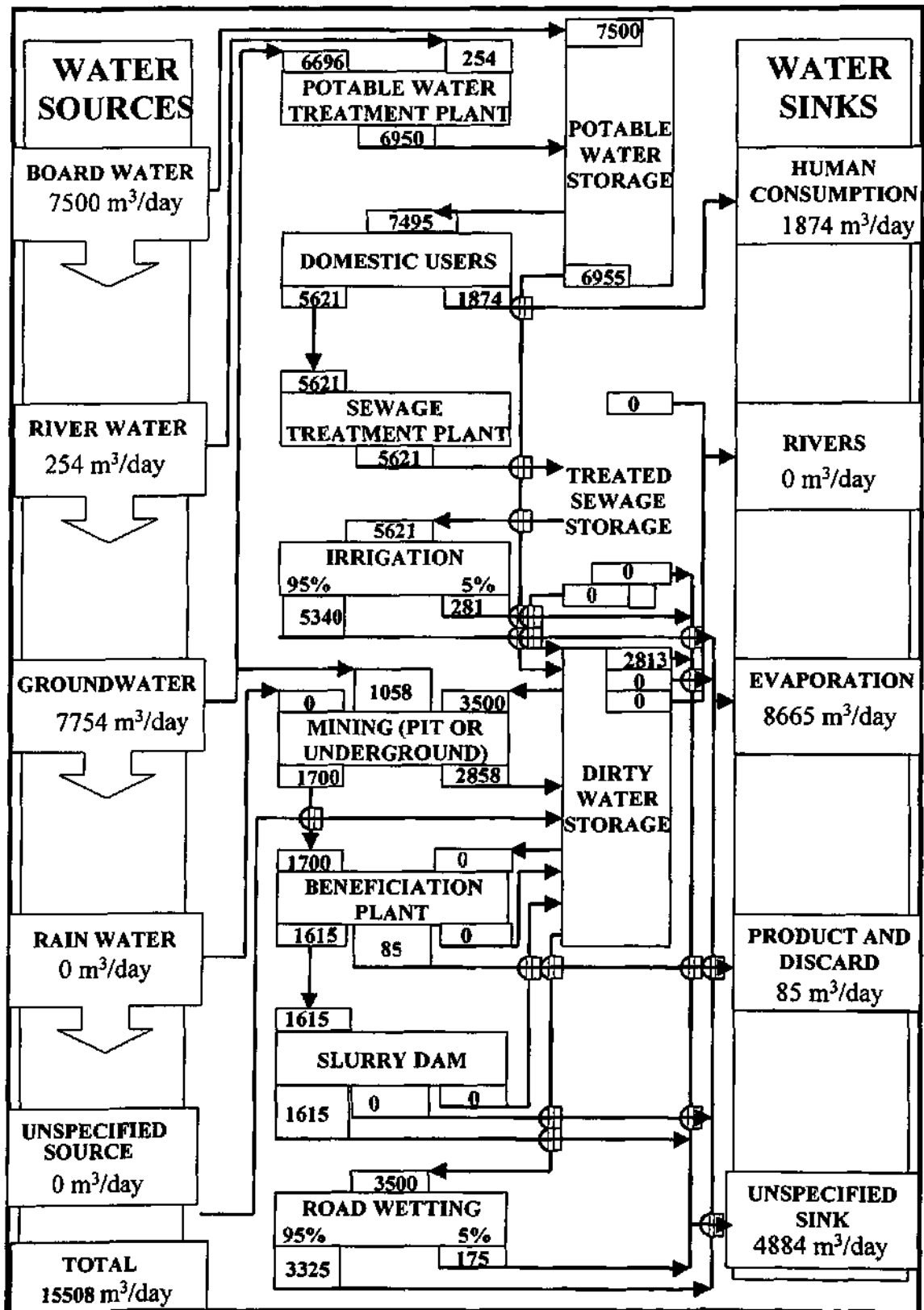
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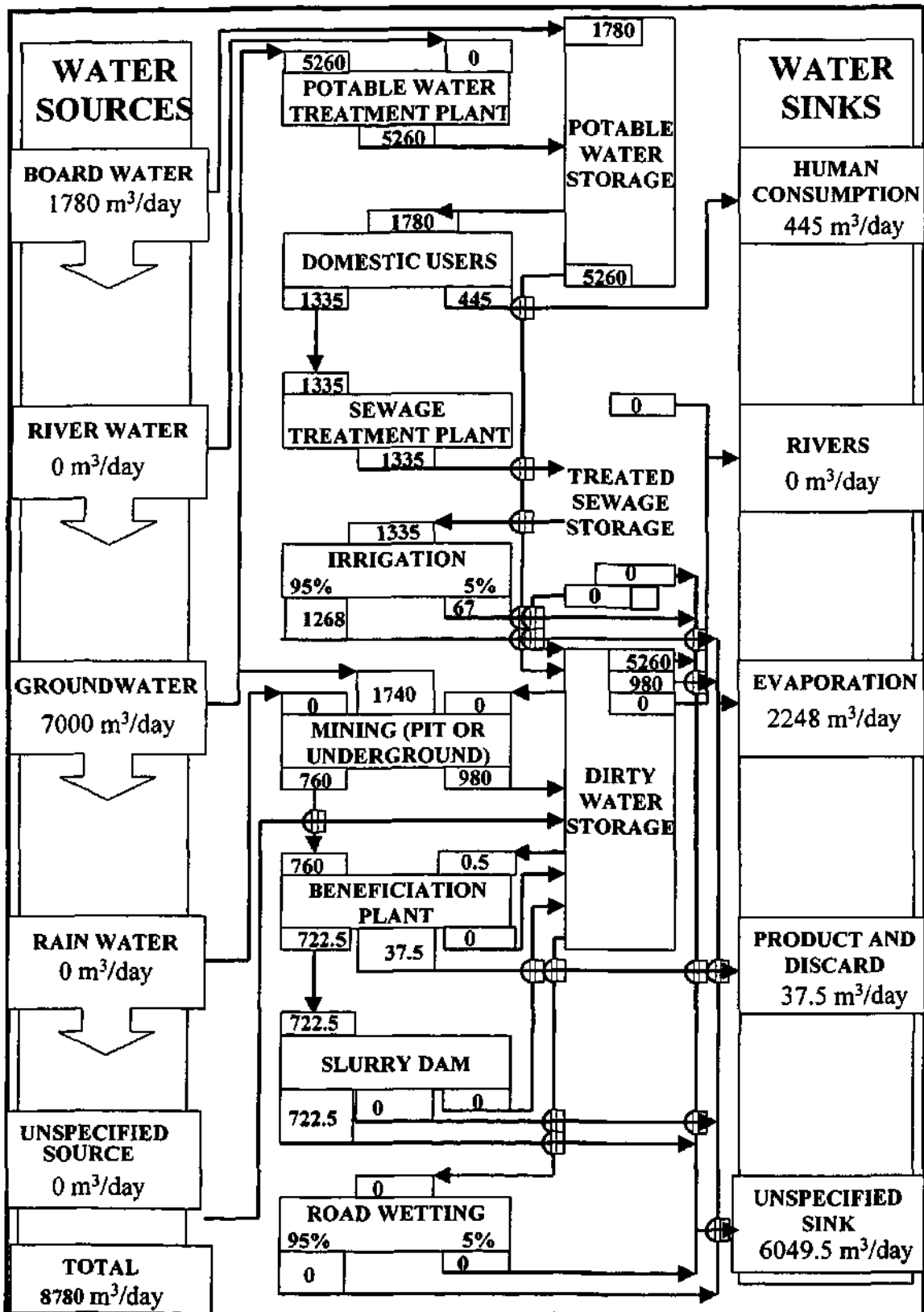


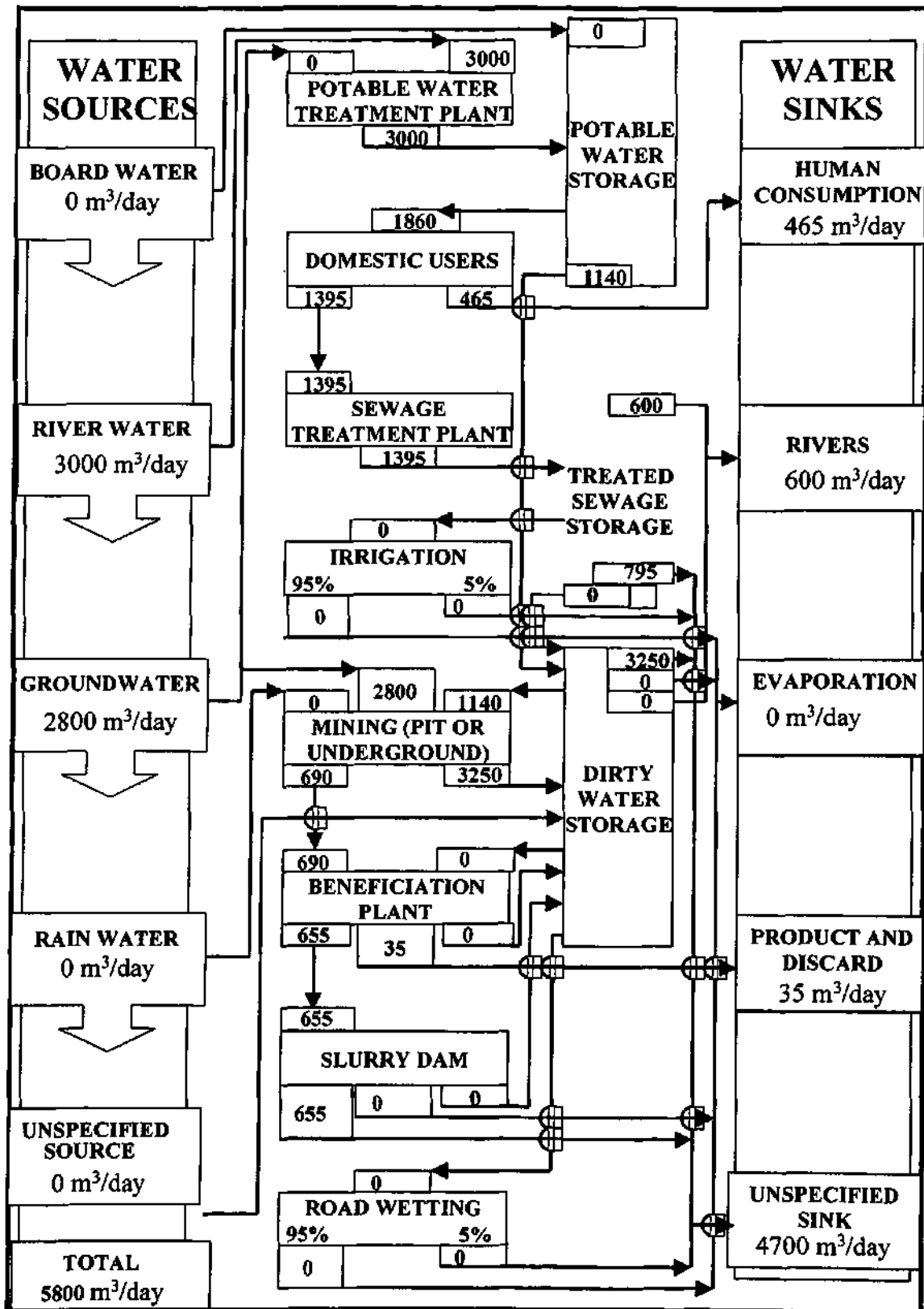


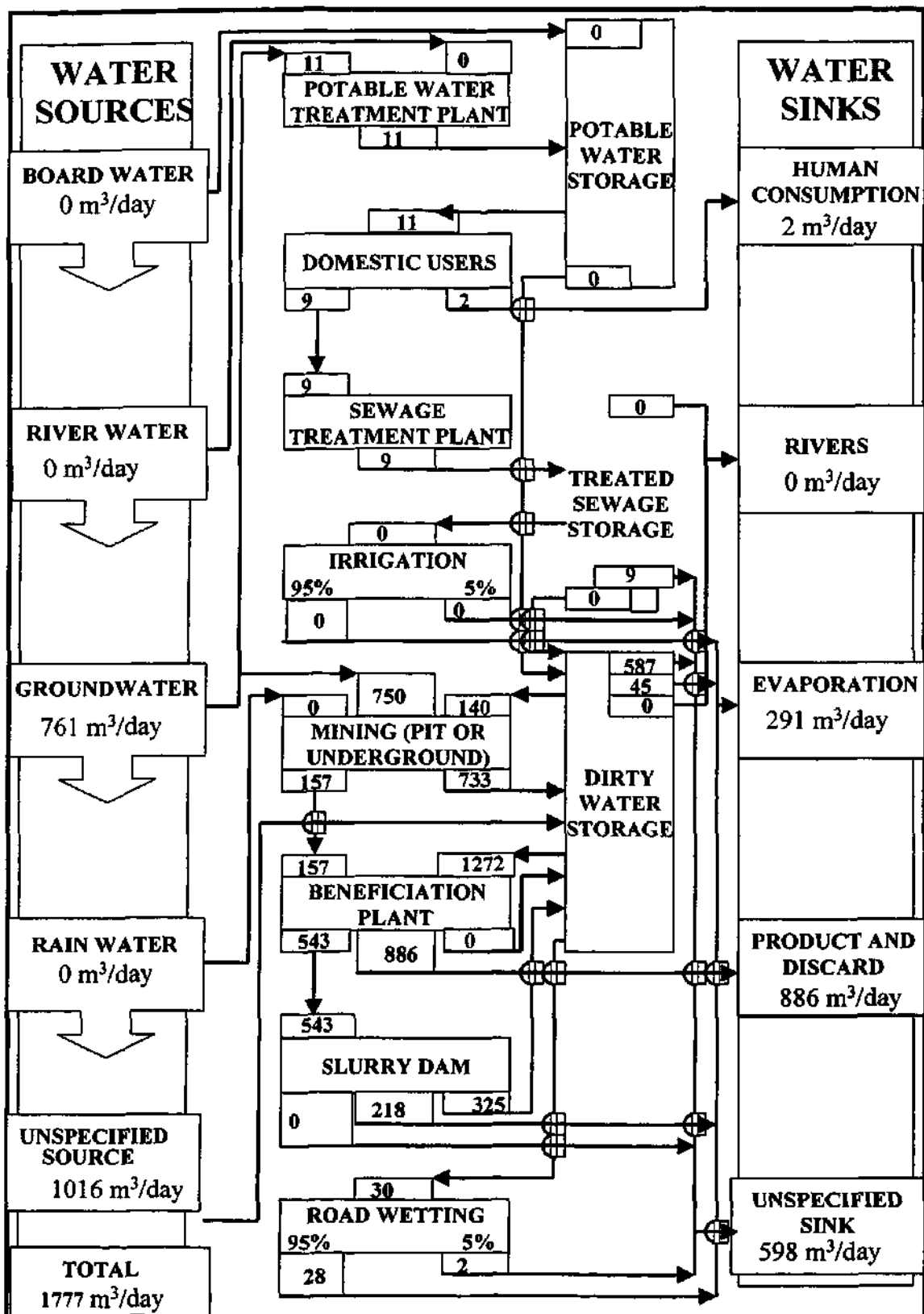


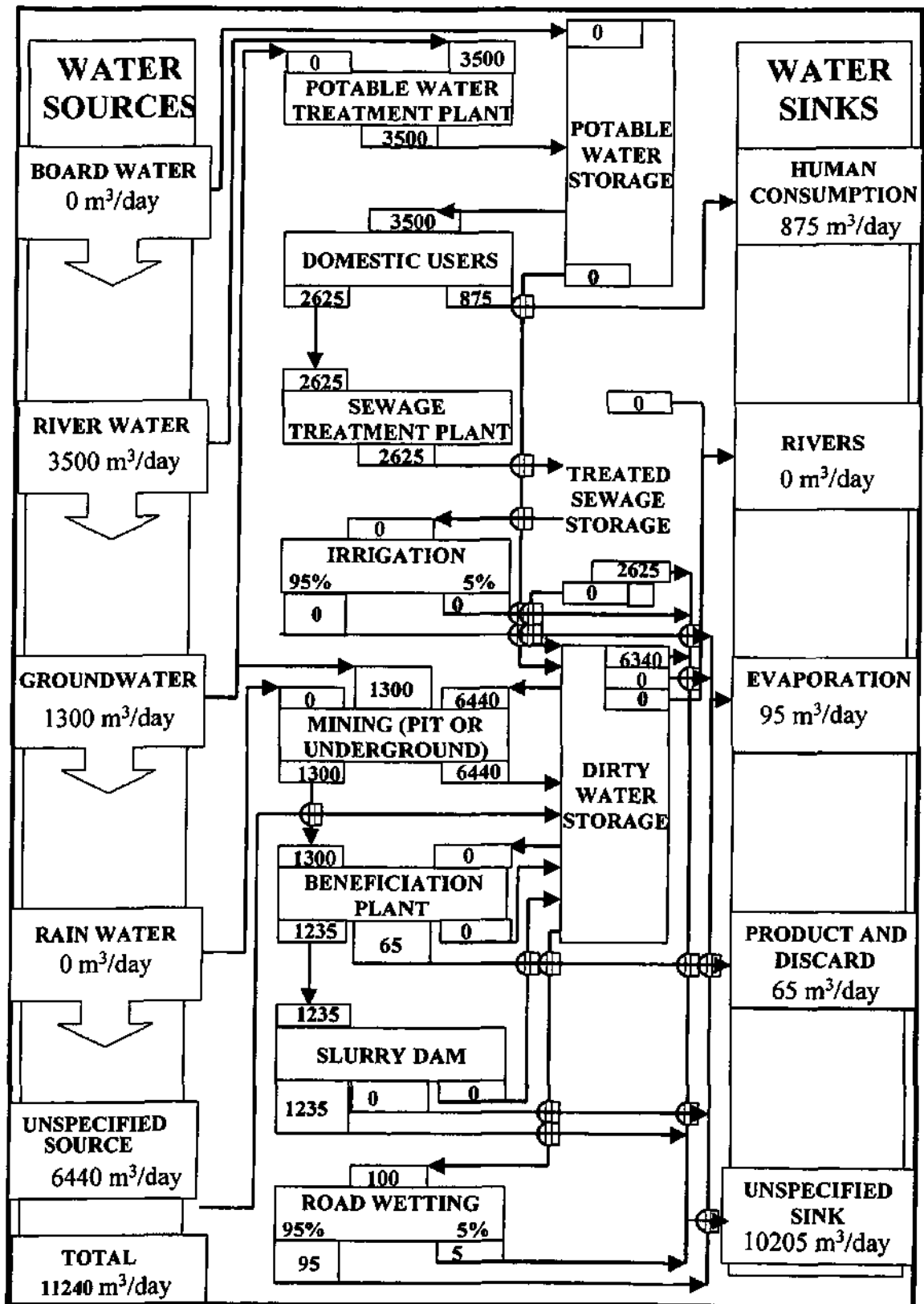


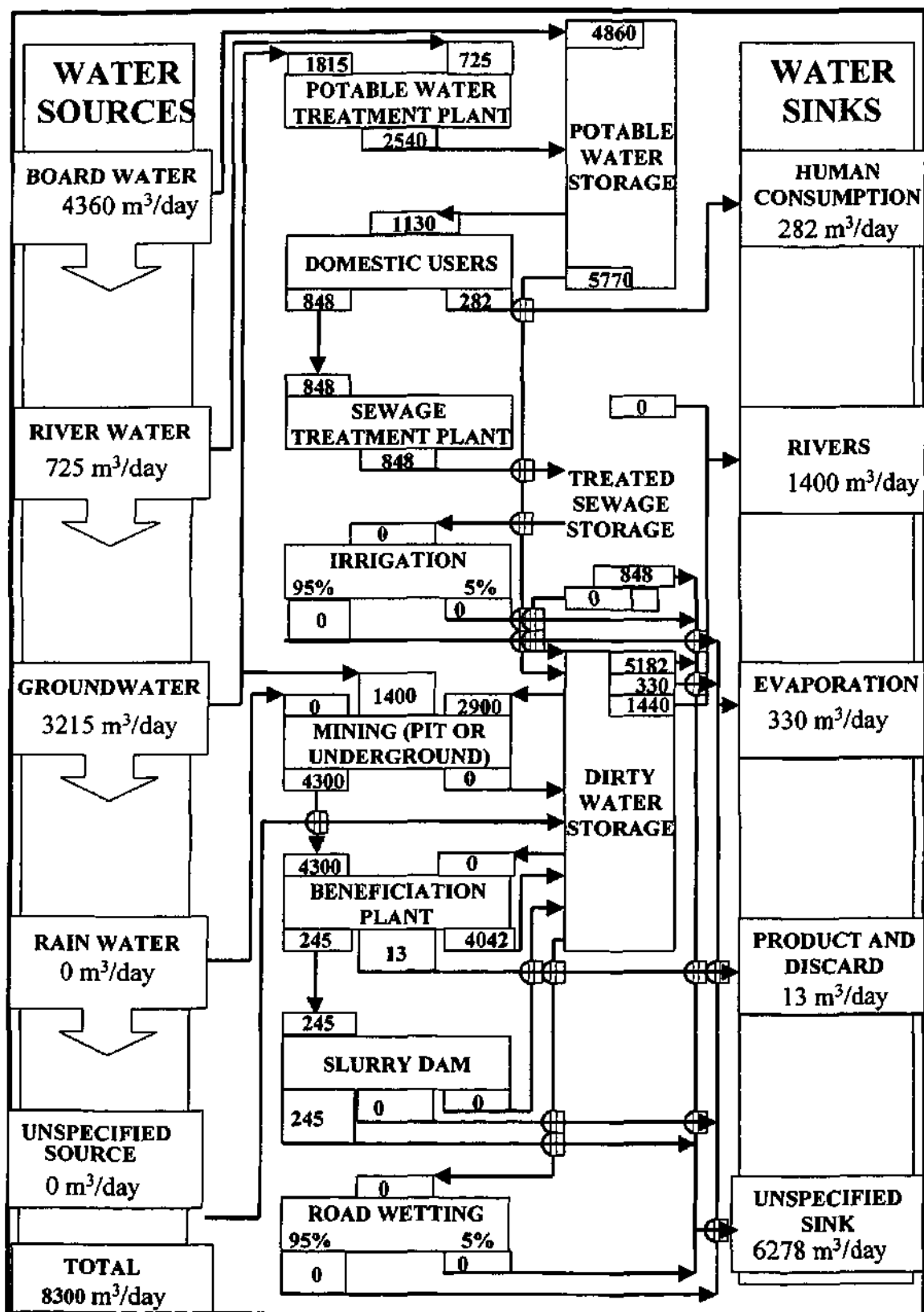




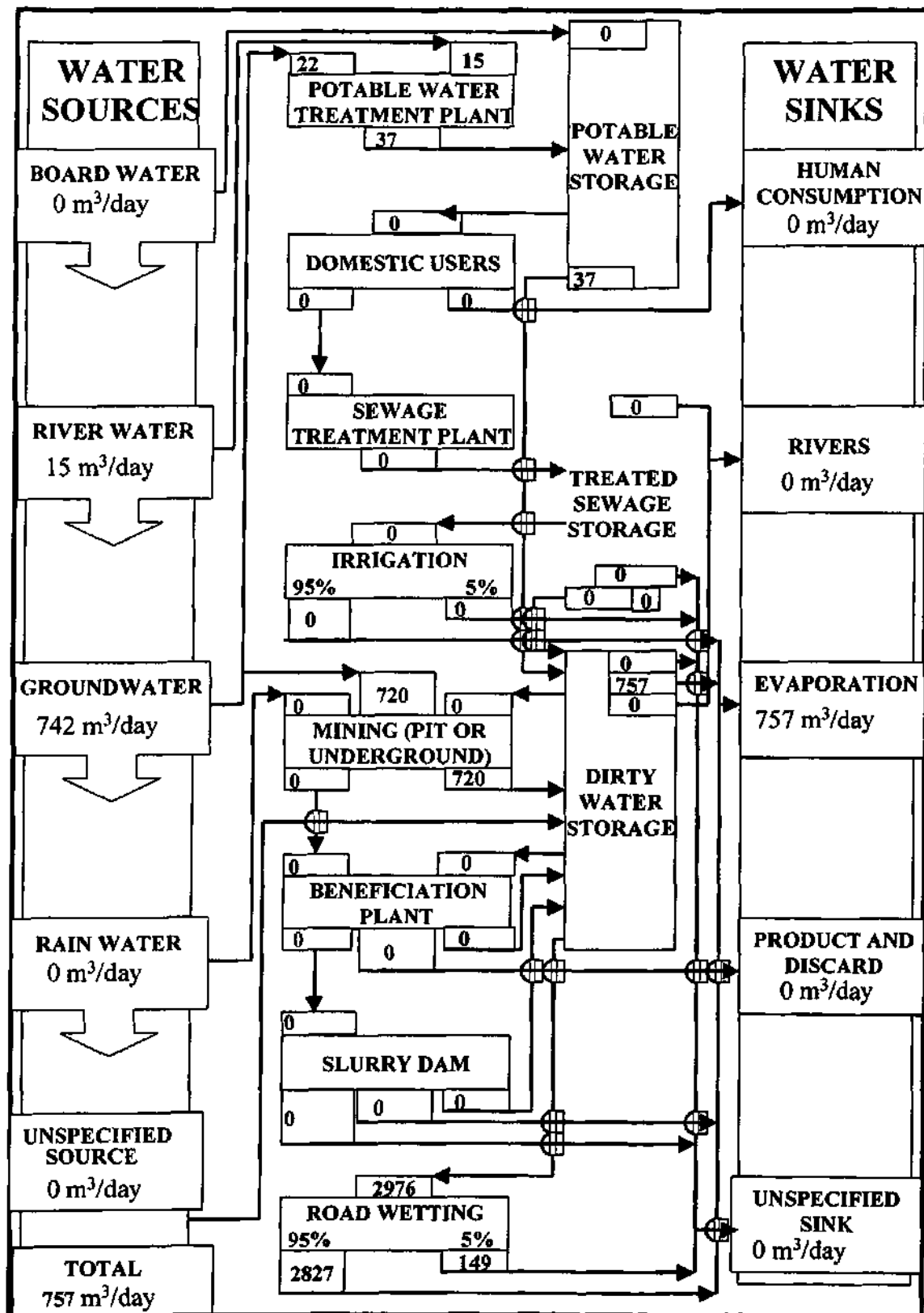


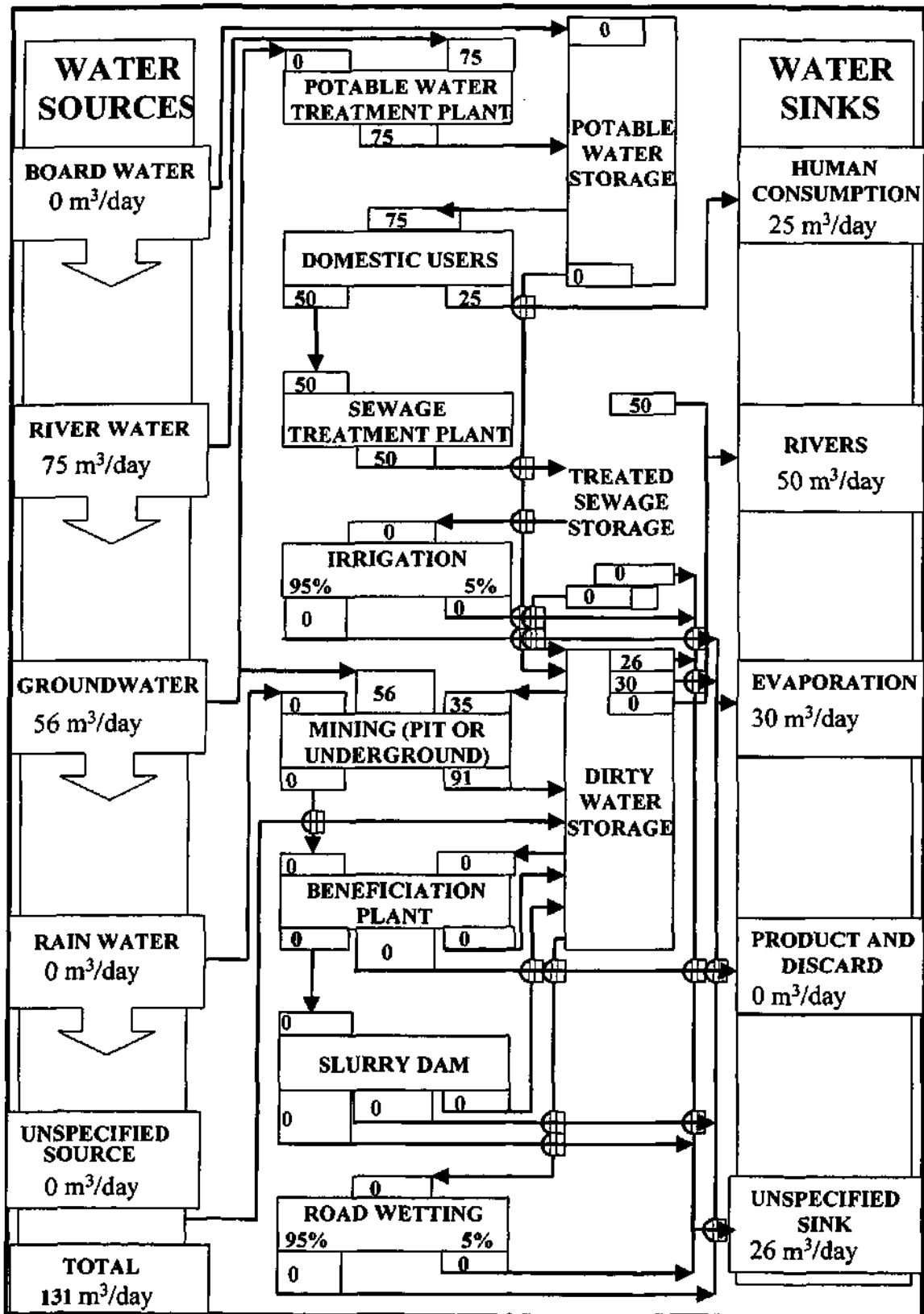


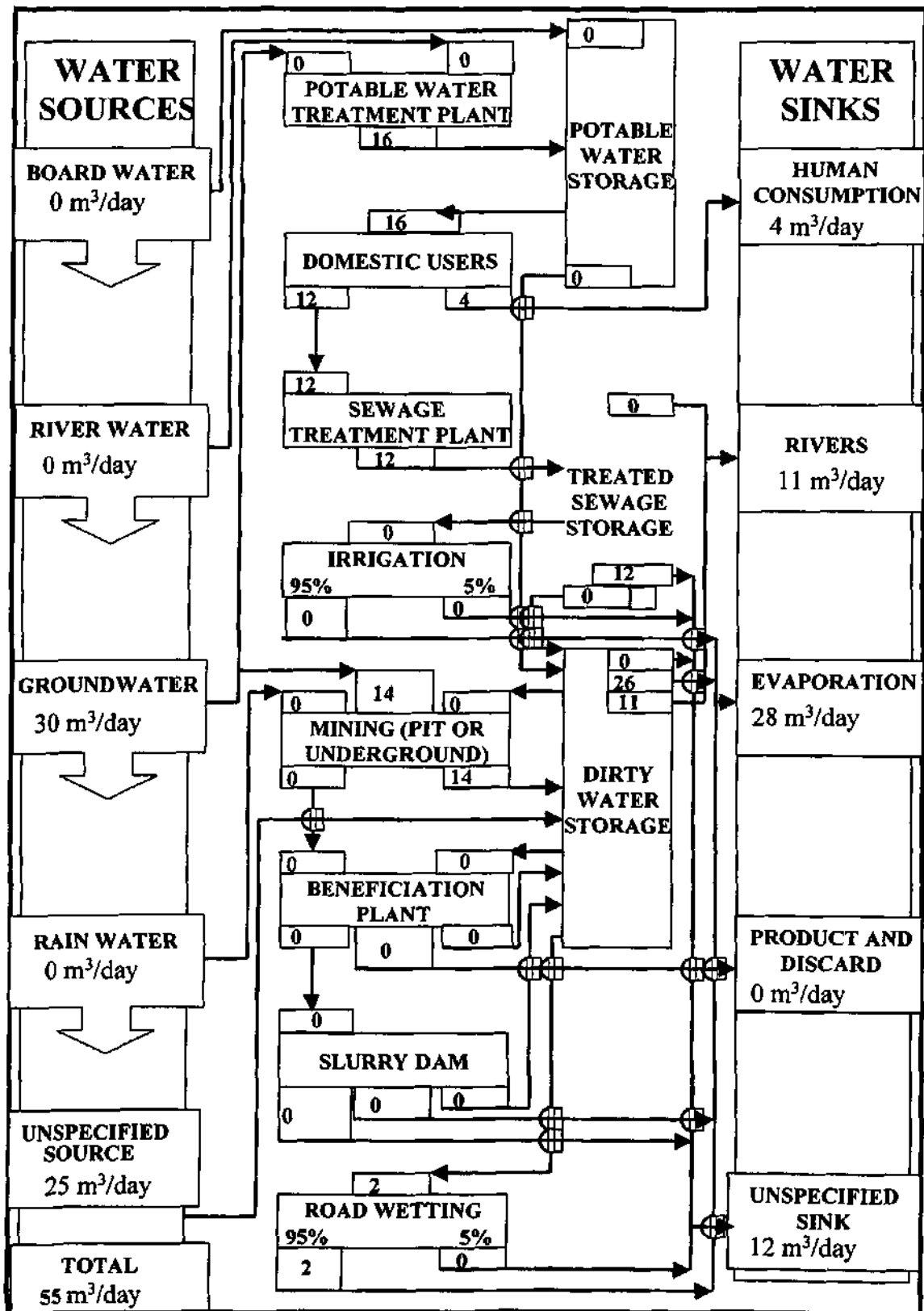




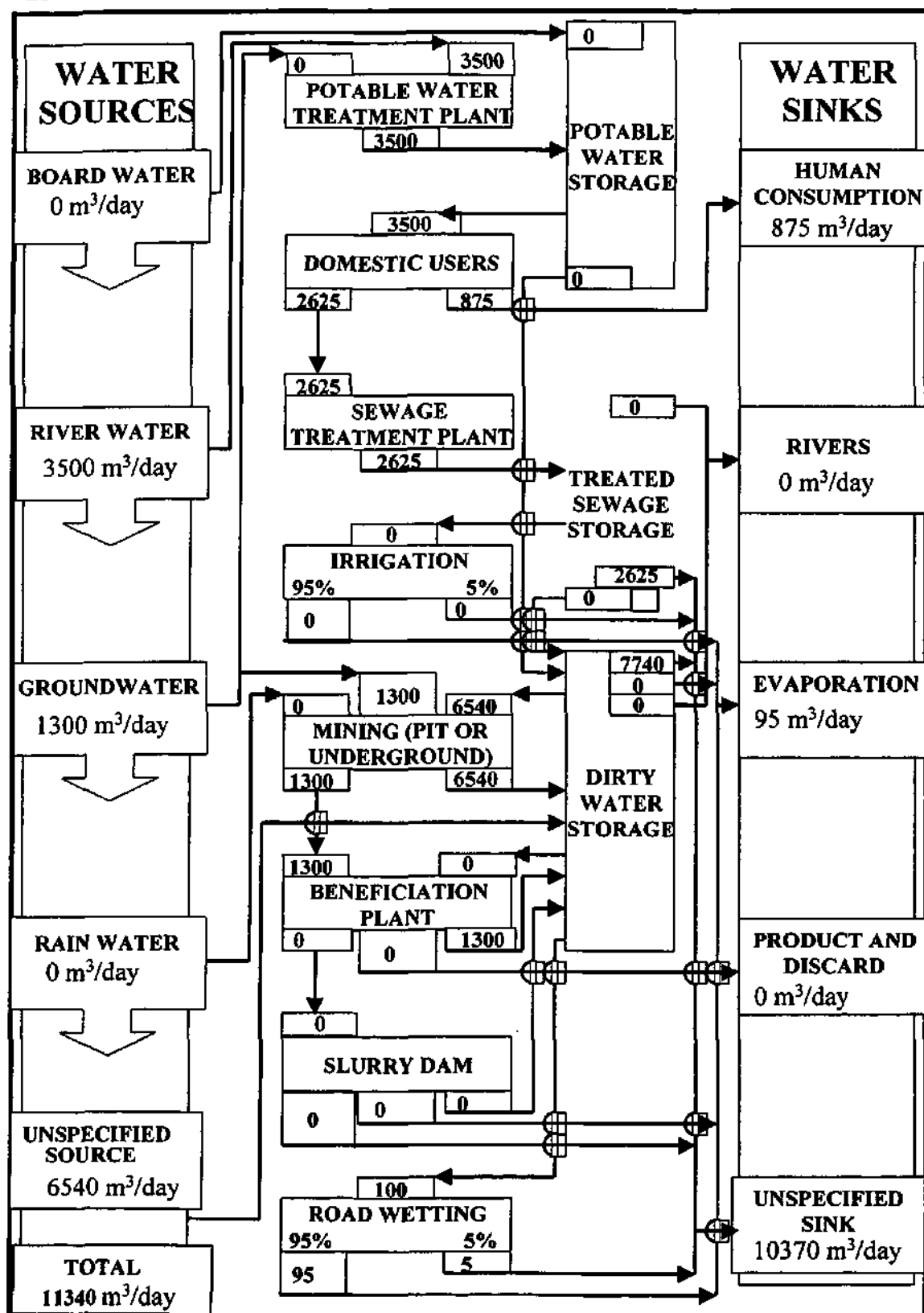
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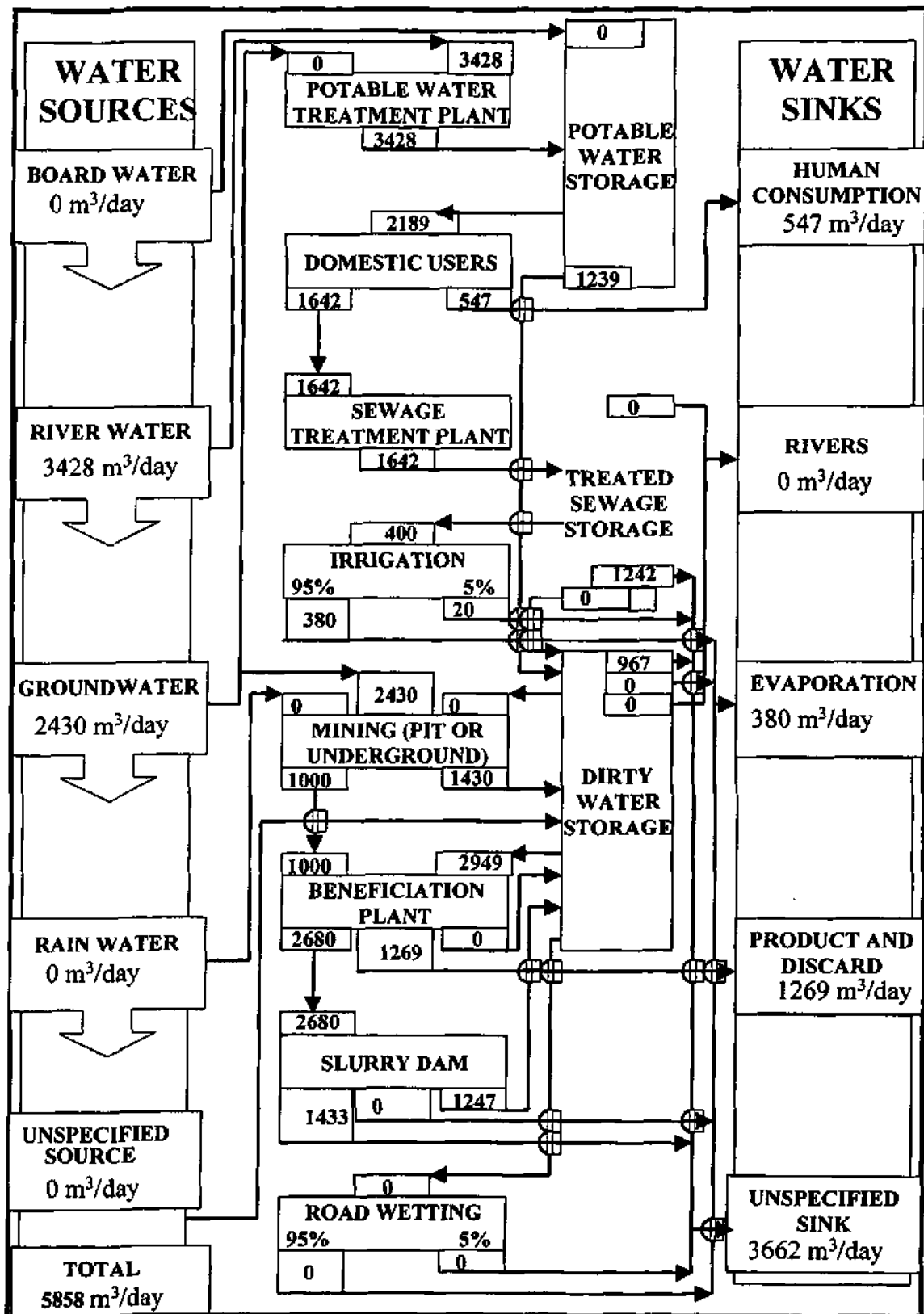


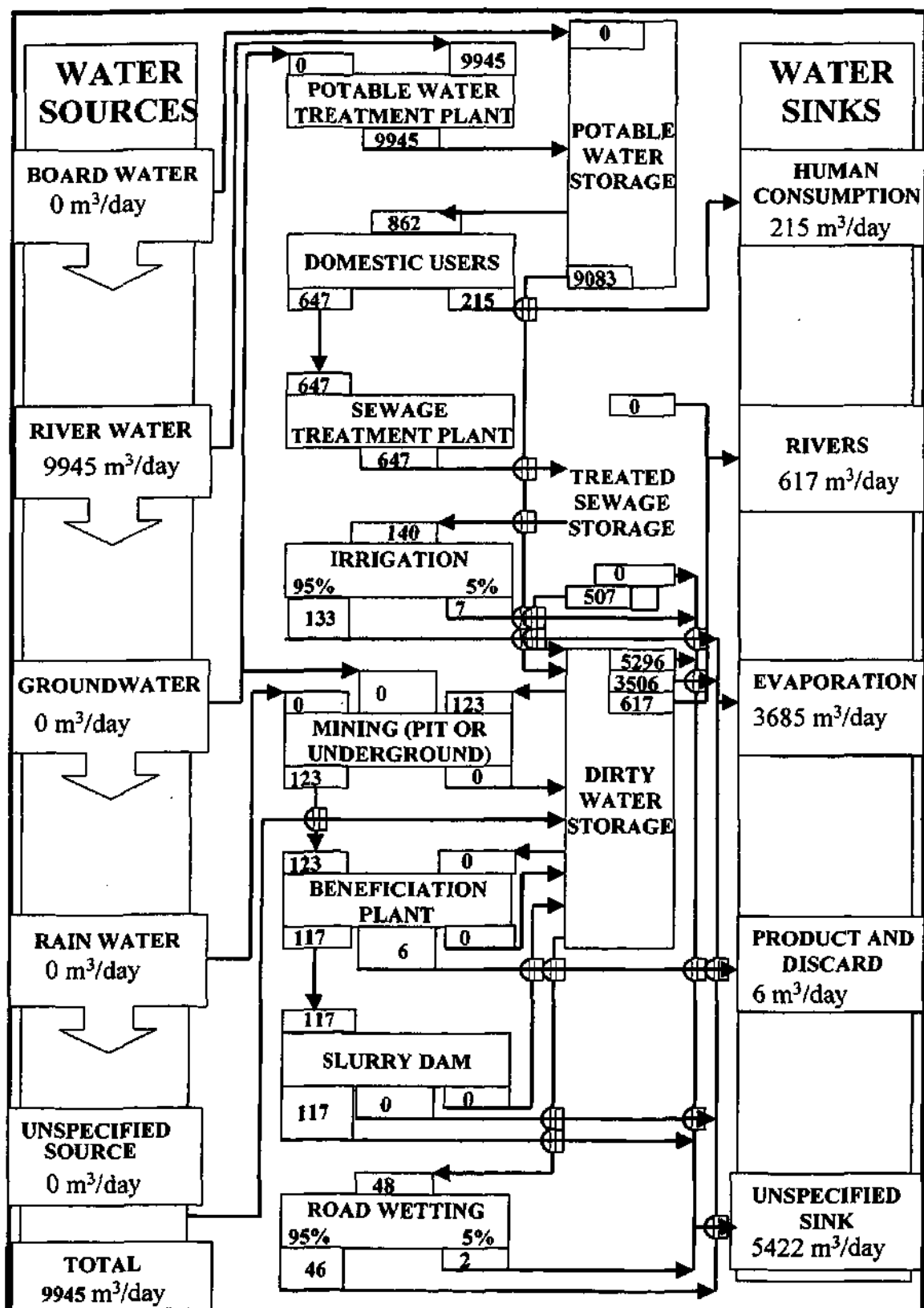


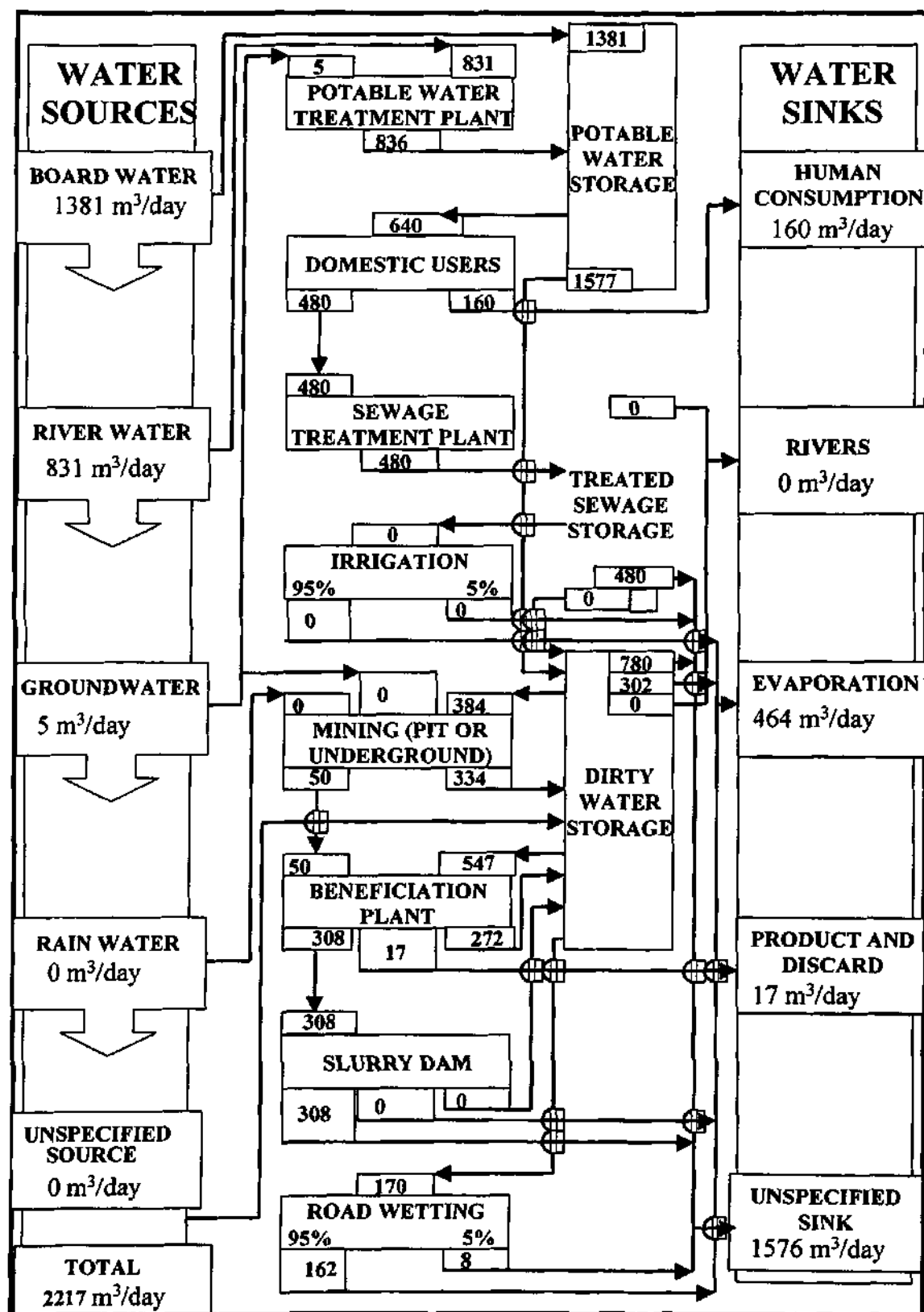
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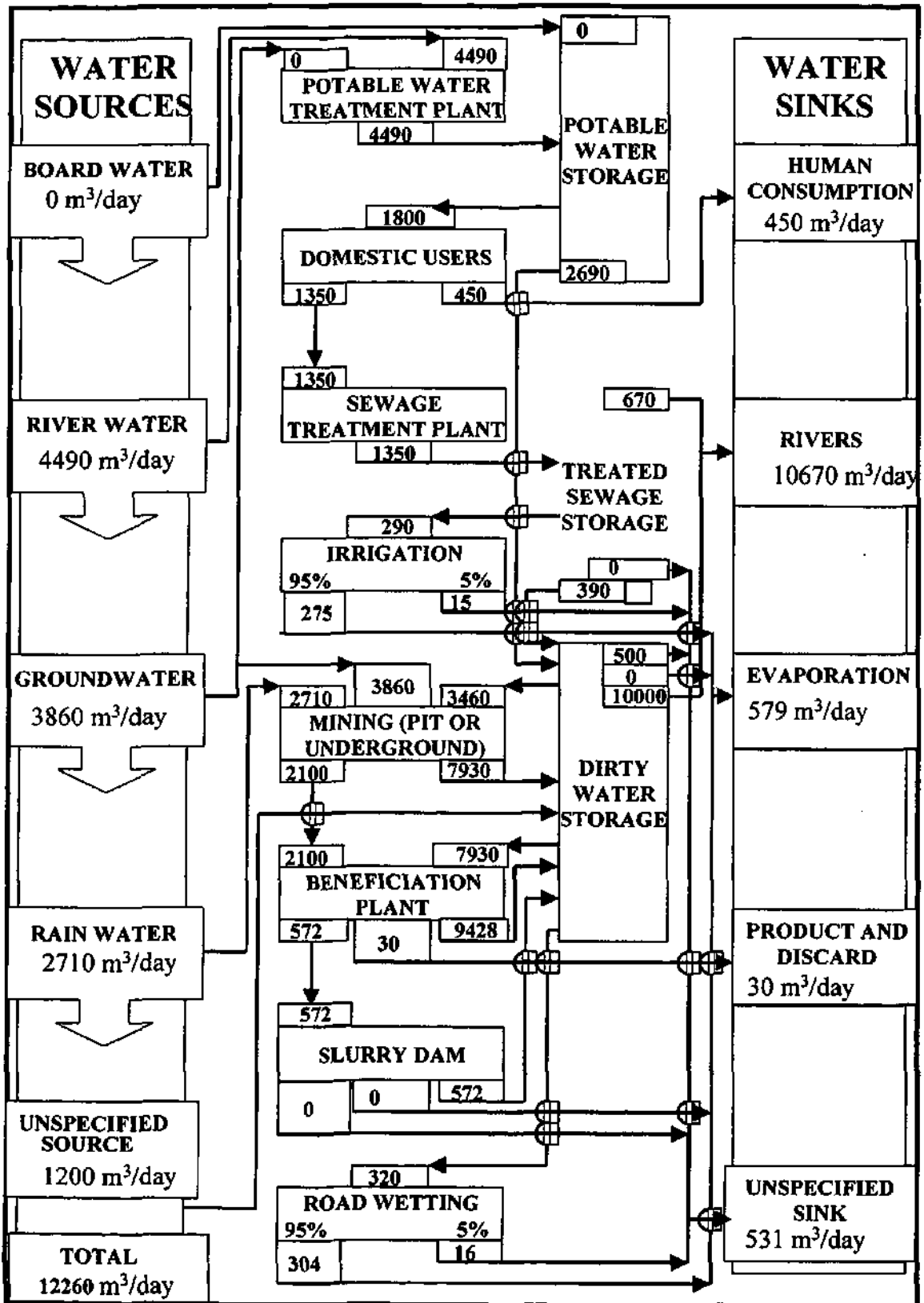


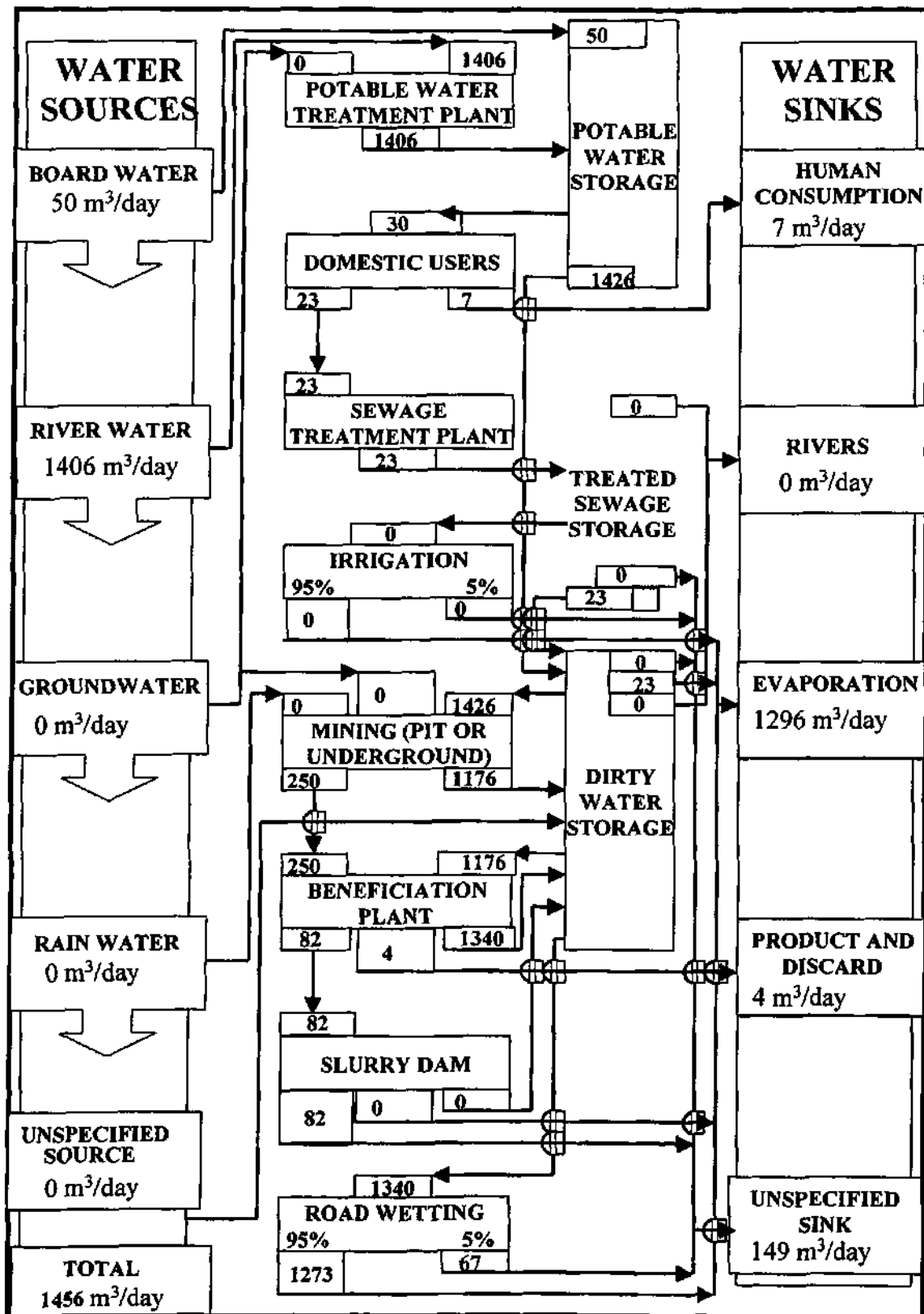
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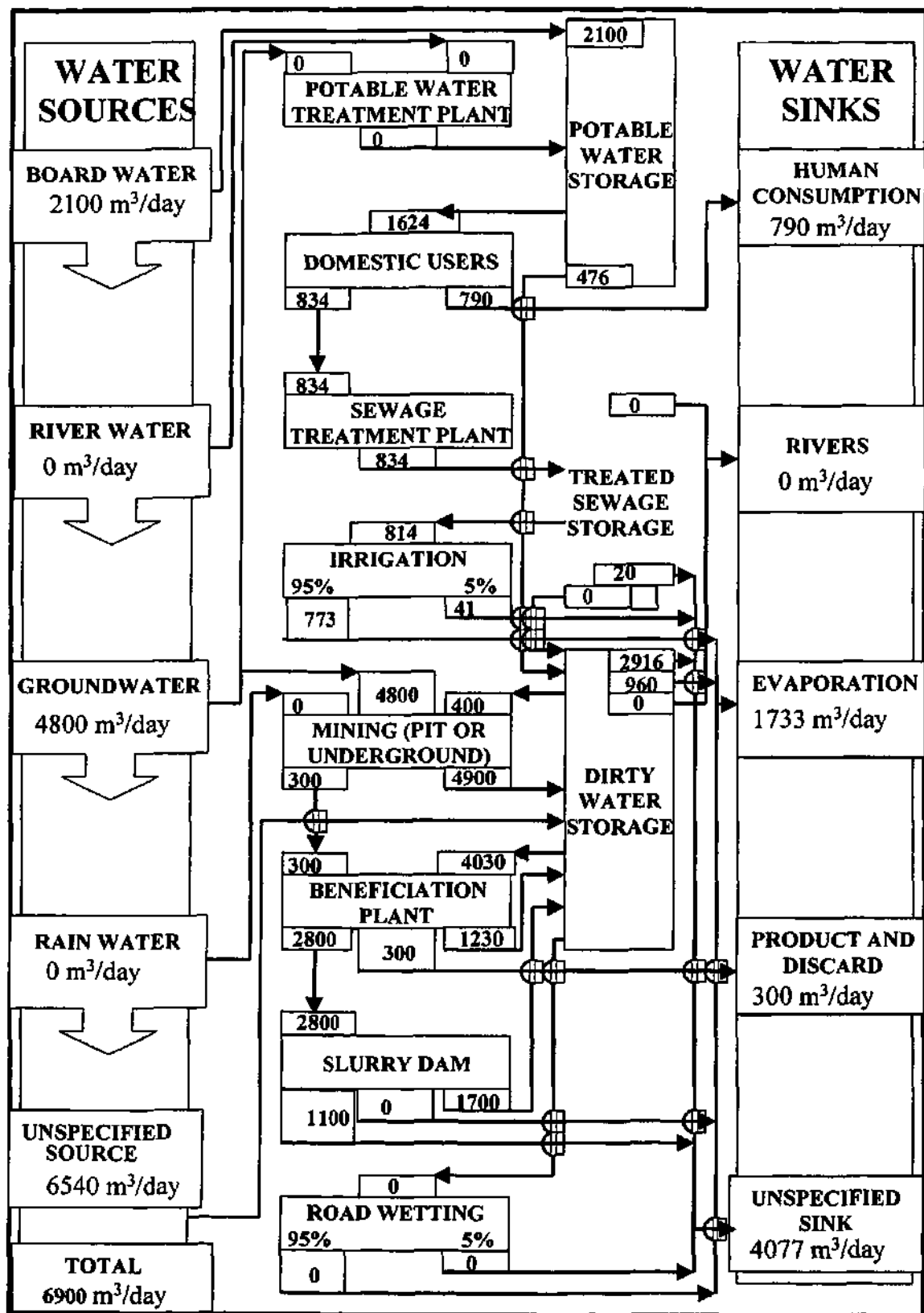


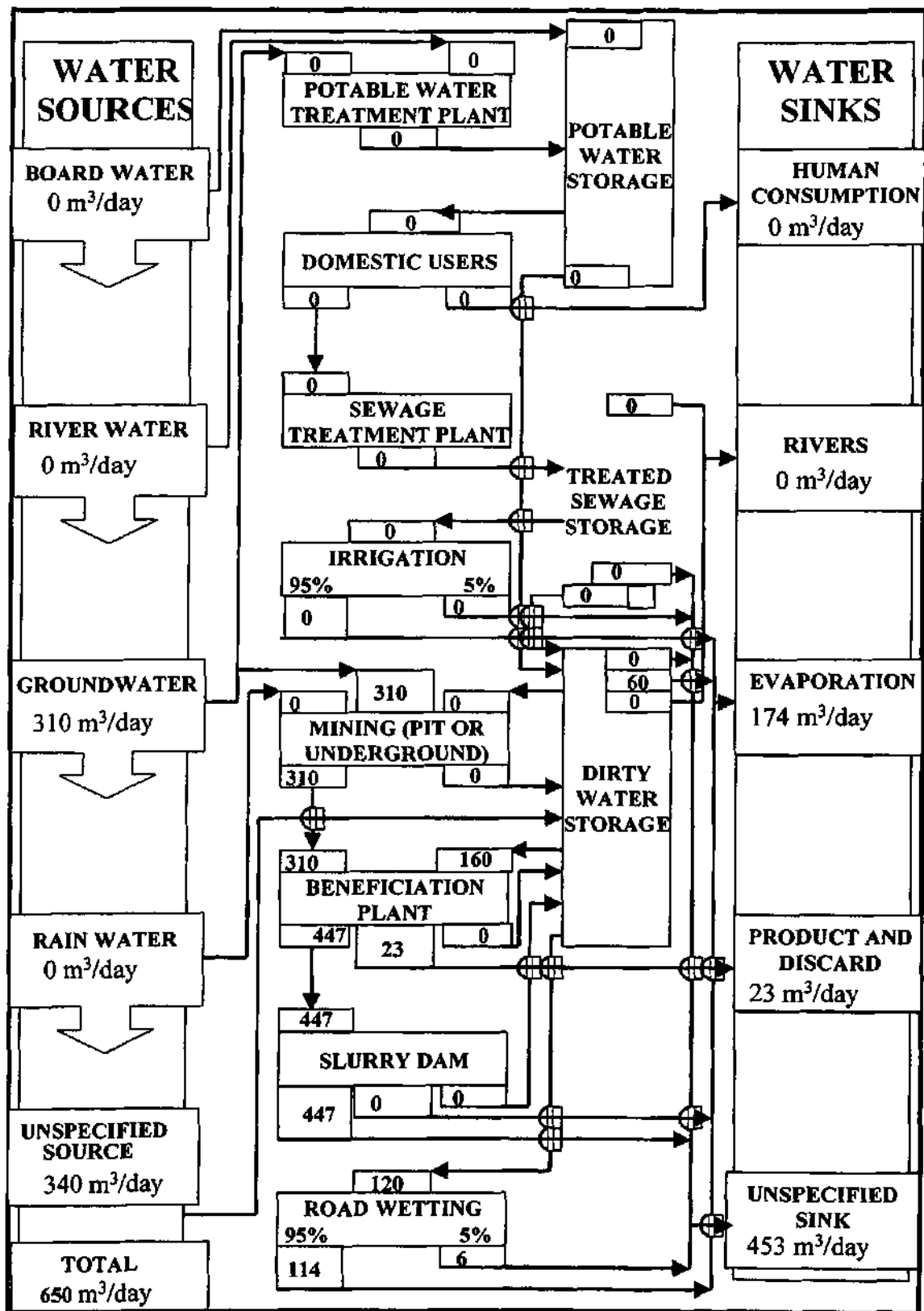


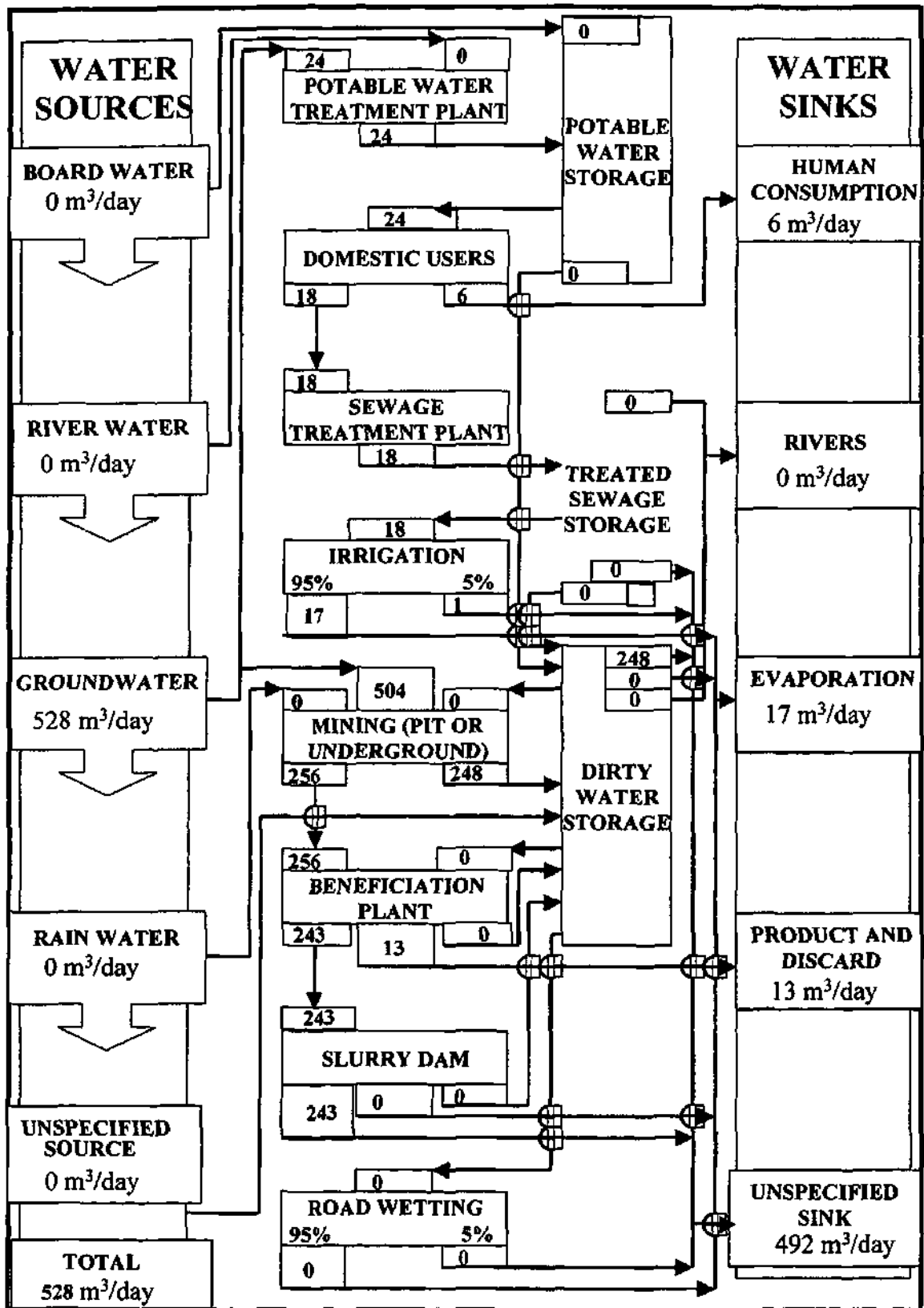


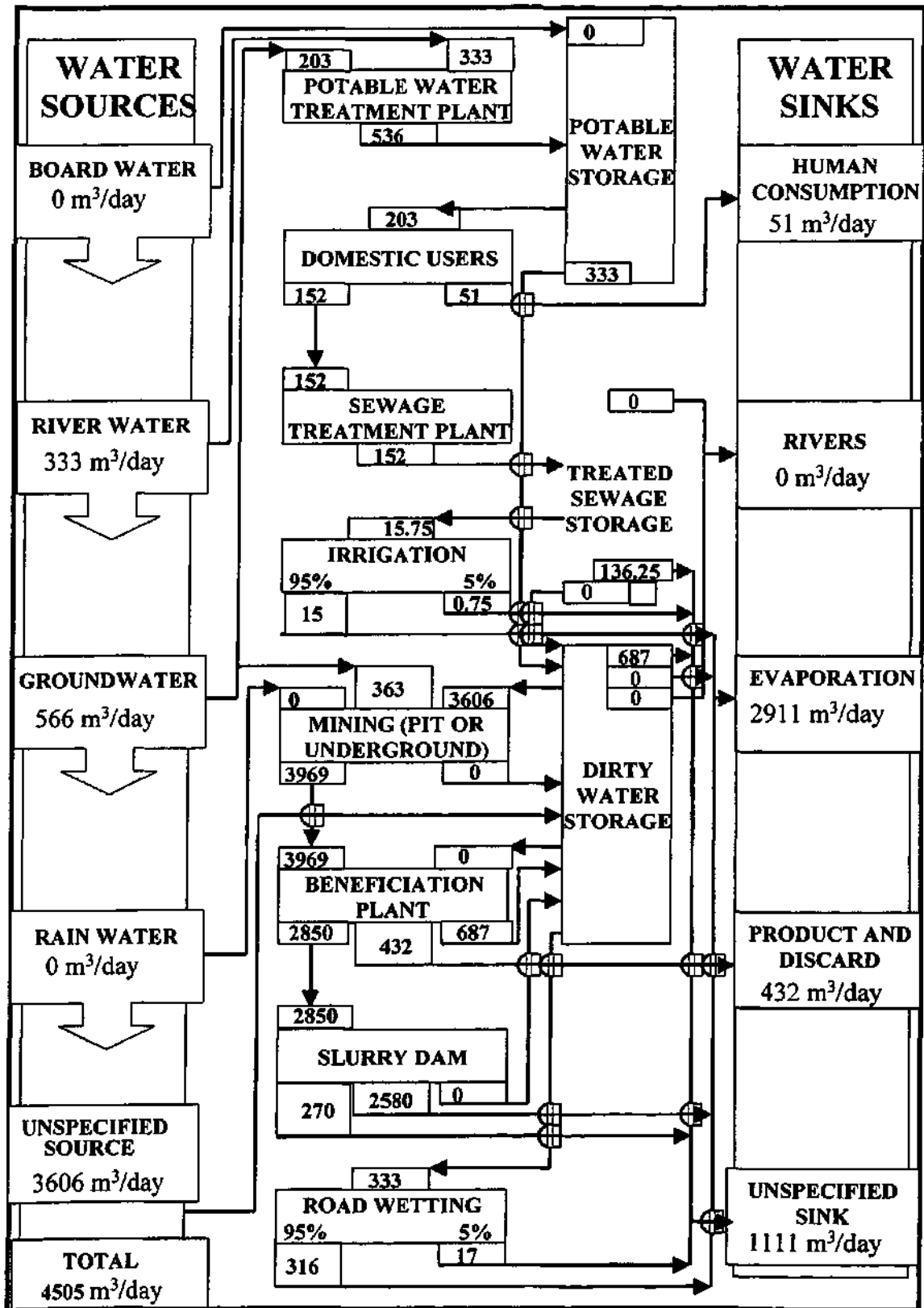


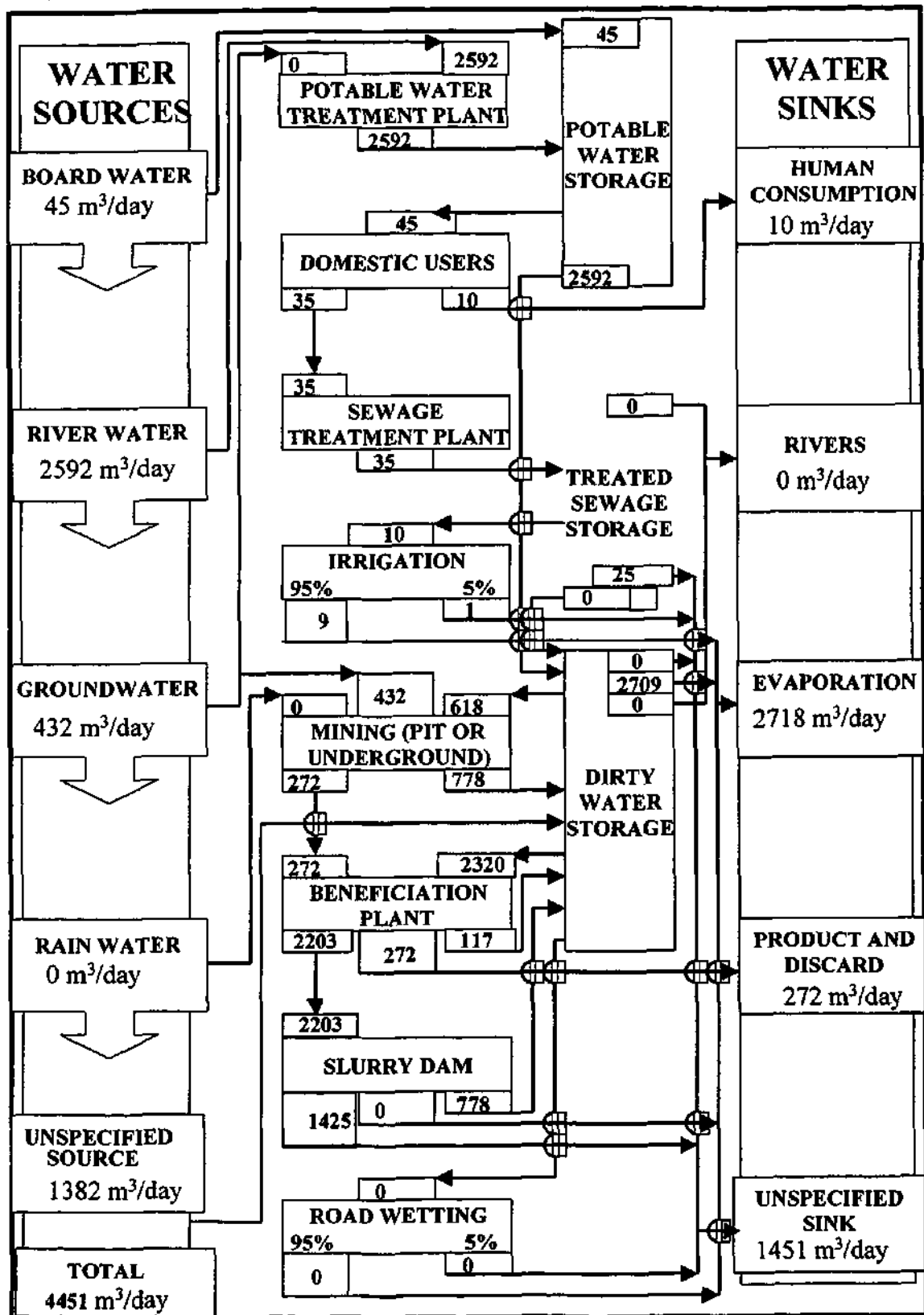


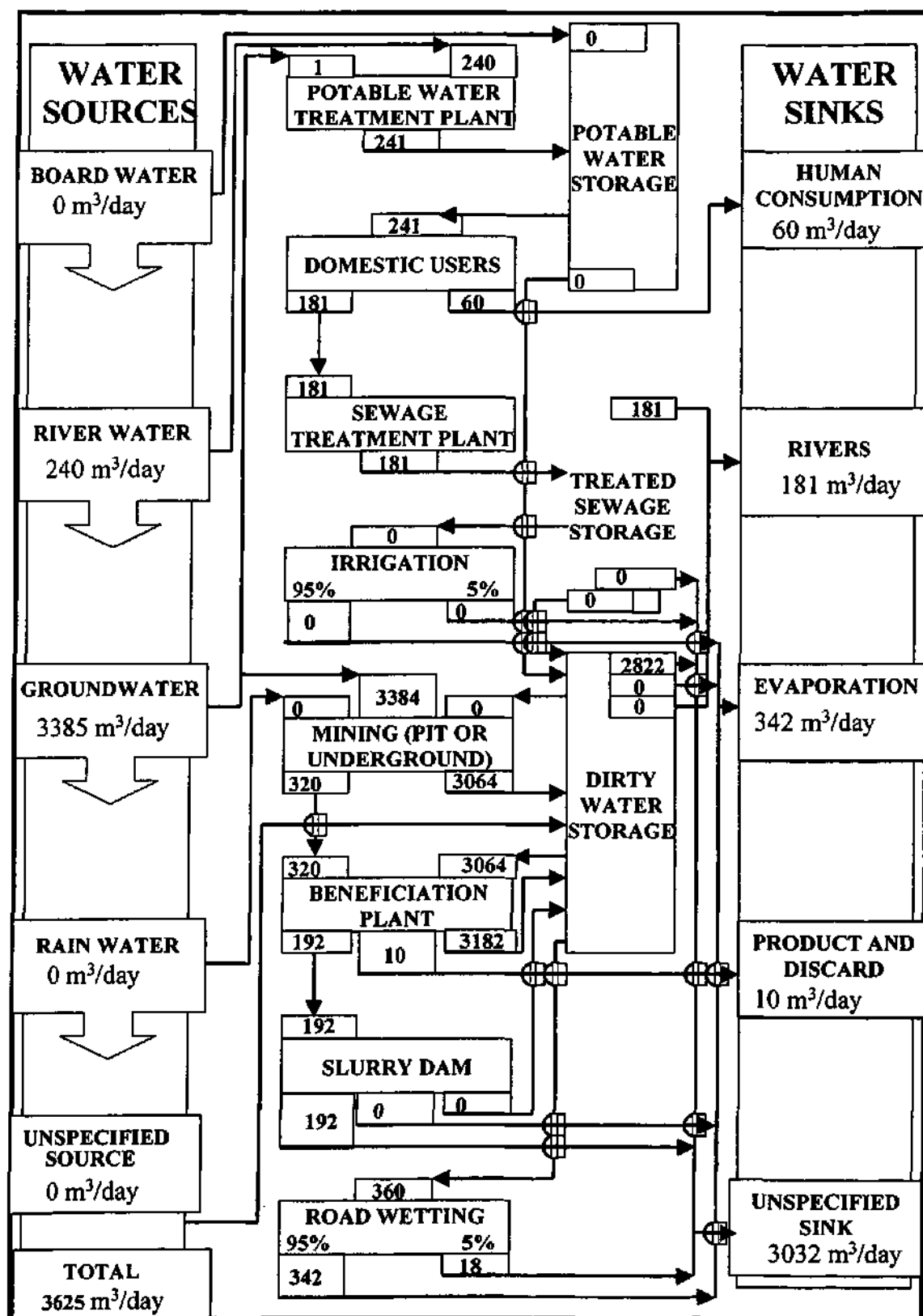


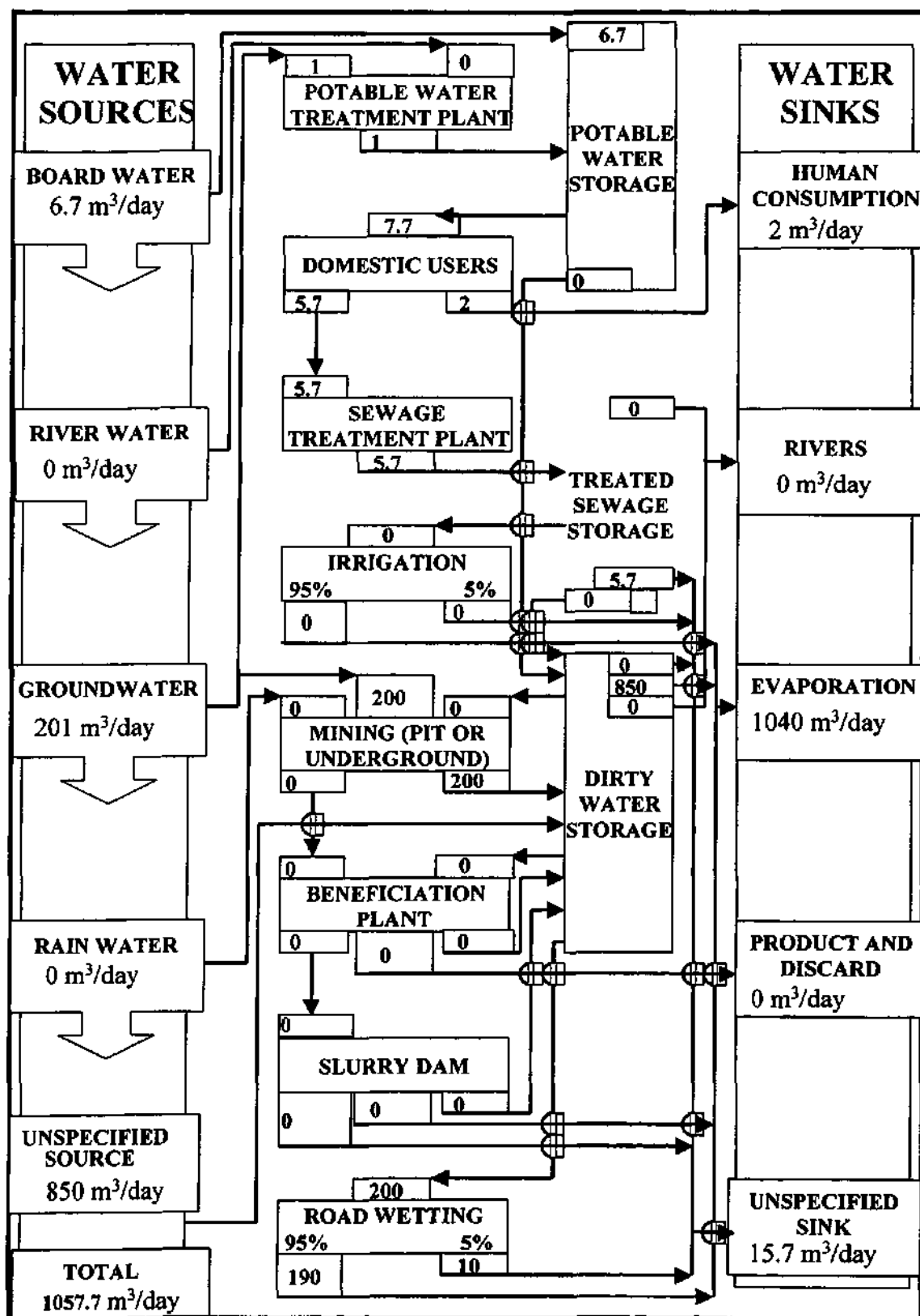


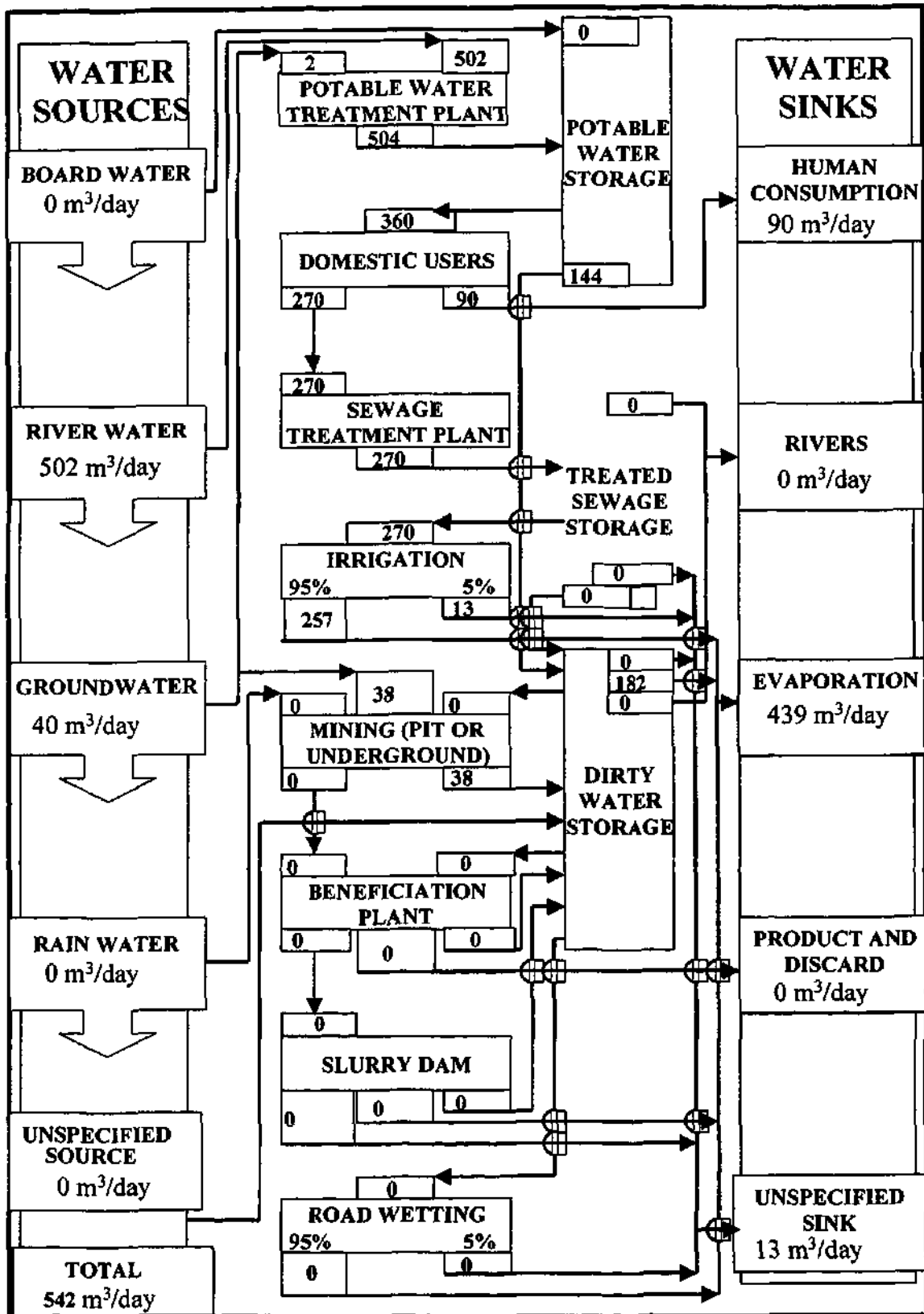








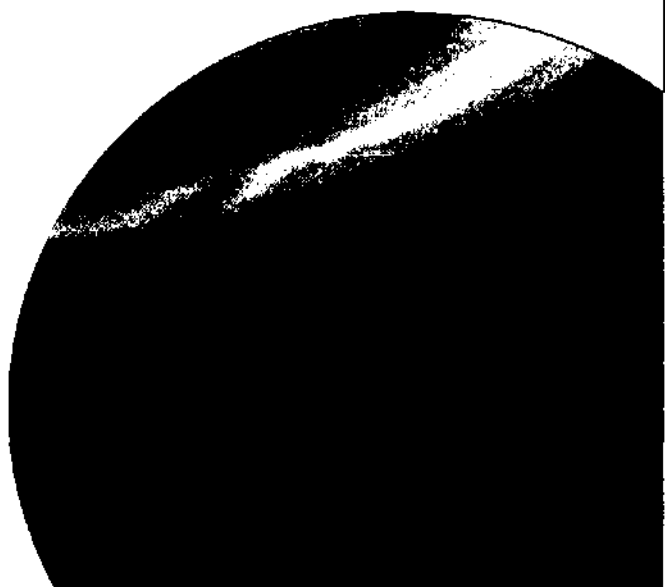
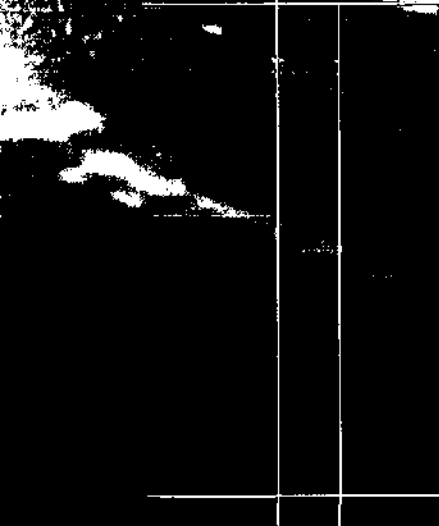
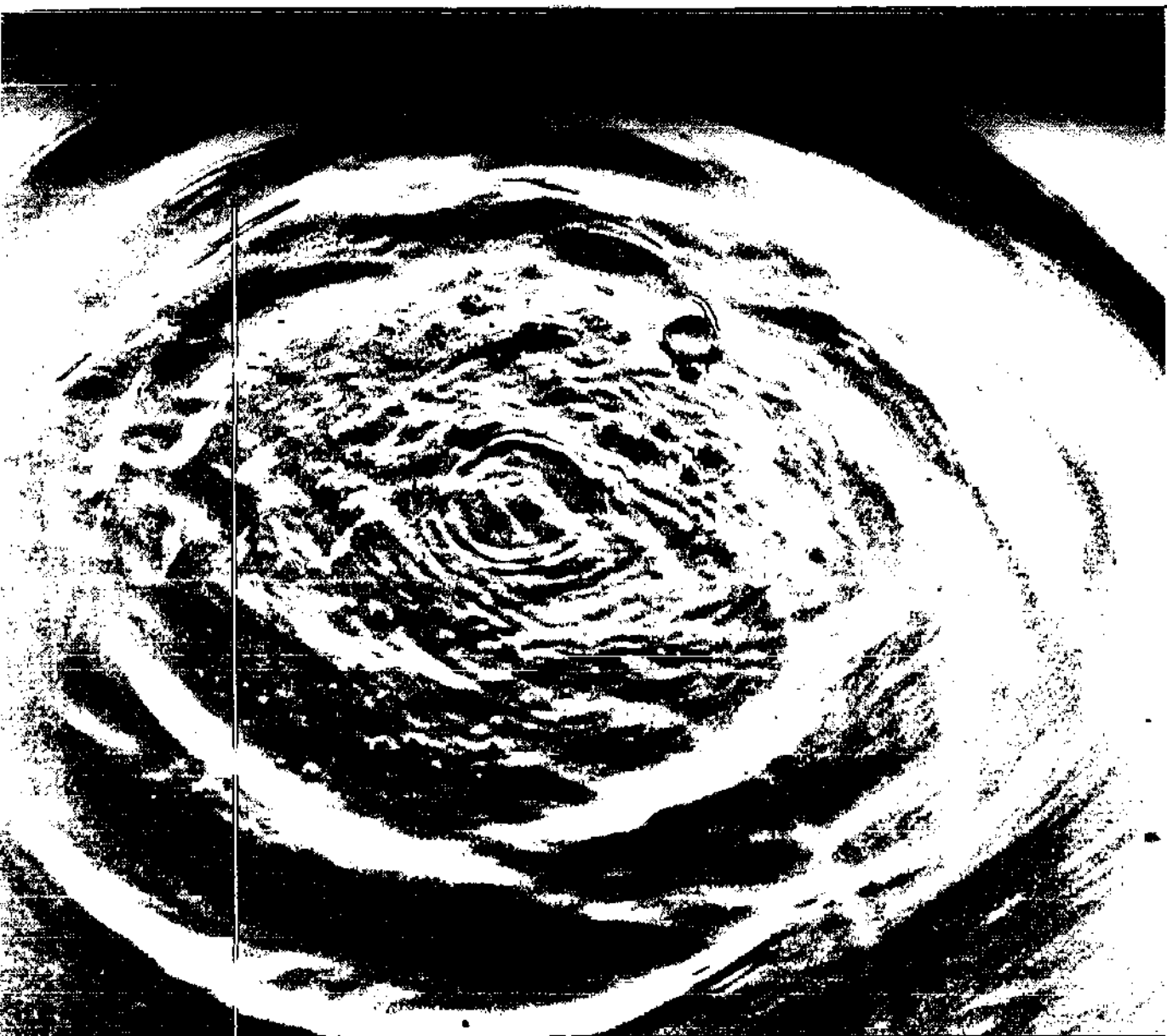




APPENDIX 3: RAW DATA TABLES

Catchment	Production (tens/month)	Production (tens/day)	Age of Mine	Remaining life	Type of Mining	Stream '001	Stream '002	Stream '003	Stream '004	Stream '005	Stream '006	Stream '007	Stream '008	Stream '009	Stream '010	Stream '011	Stream '012	Stream '013	Stream '014	Stream '015
Offants River	11111	3704	-	17	f	1381	631	5												
Offants River	360000	11467	46	20	c	4546	911													
Gain Offants	80000	1467	4	6	c	100				2000										
Wijge River	230000	7467	32	14	c	5	68	680					68	68	5	4	1	4		
Offants River	1000000	33333	45	25	f		9945						9945	9945	862	647	215	647	140	133
Kafop River	220000	7333	66	9	e		3697	3876			8	3697	3705	2141	1686	535	1606			7
Grookopul	50000	1667	-	13	b		250		1377			250								
Offants River	127000	4283	3	19	c		761			1016	11		11	11	9	2	9			
Seelpoort	50000	1667	108	15	g	7		201		650	1		1	6	2	6				
Offants River	100000	3333	52	14	d		75	64				75	75	75	50	25	50			
Offants River	420000	14000	46	180	f	2100		4800							1624	834	796	834	814	775
Waterberg	36000000	1146667	-	17	b	1205		10822	2192			1233	10872	12055	526	394	132	394		41
Marabans River	25000	833	6	6	d		15	742				22	15	37						
Marabopul	45000	1500	100	1	c		3500	1300		6440			3500	3500	3500	2625	875	2625		
Witbank Dam	384444	12669	-	10	f		310			340										
Offants River	414667	20554	70	30	e		5170	7870	565			5170	5170	1320	990	330	990	450	428	22
Offants River	700000	23333	30	17	c	4340	725	3215			1815	725	2540	1130	848	282	848			
Offants River	400000	20147	19	25	g	1479				225				1065	886	199	886	340	323	17
Wijge and Offants	400000	13333	5	21	e		408	5136		4848	408	3256	48	36	12	36				
Wijge and Offants	400000	13333	40	24	a	260	3820	3520	877			3820	3820	260	195	65	195	195	185	10
Marabopul	120000	4167	-	19	f		528			24		24	24	24	18	6	18	18	17	1
Great Oufu River	60000	2000	-	15	b		30			25	16		16	16	12	4	12			
Offants River	787000	26250	-	67	e		3000	2800				3000	3000	1860	1395	465	1395			
Offants River	640000	21333	14	21	g		5103	127	644	2342		5103	5103	500	375	125	375			
Offants River	126532	4218	96	5	e		502	40		2	502	504	560	270	90	270	270	257	13	
Vaal River	650000	28333	14	24	c	7500	254	7754		6694	254	6950	7495	5621	1874	5621	5621	5340	281	
Vaal River	1350000	45000	19	30	a	1544	623	1833		4735	623	623	1544	1158	386	1158	623	592	31	
Gain Offants	1200000	40000	26	16	a	680	3700	4440		2158	3700	3700	320	240	80	240				
Vaal River Barage	280000	12667	41	19	c	1780	7000				5260	5260	1780	1335	445	1335	1335	1268	67	
Vaal River	100000	3333	3	20	a	53	3503			3000		3000	30	23	7	23	23	22	1	
Vaal River	170000	5667	30	20	f		333	566		3604	203	353	534	203	162	51	152	16	15	1
Elephantopol	80000	2667	12	12	f	45	30			1000	10		10	45	34	11	34			
Grookopul	80000	2667	-	12	c	45	2592	432		1382		2592	2592	45	35	10	35	10	9	1
Marabopul / Gain Kamal	48000	2167	-	3	a		300			1060										
Wito River	30000	1667	-	6	c		200	770			50	200	250	50	38	13	38			
Offants River	1050000	35000	4	67	f		4490	3860	2710	1200		4490	4490	1800	1350	450	1350	290	275	15
Boothmanopol	125000	4167	4	5	f	50	1406					1406	1406	30	23	7	23			
Wito River	30000	1667	14	17	e		480	1414				480	480	480	360	120	360			
Offants River	350000	14667	-	30	f		3428	2430				3428	3428	2189	1642	547	1642	400	380	20
Marabopul	25000	833	74	e	e		3500	1300		6540		3500	3500	3500	2625	875	2625			
Offants River	140000	4667	14	7	f		240	3385			1	240	241	241	181	40	181			
M						18	28	36	5	16	19	28	36	37	37	37	37	15	15	15
MS/DAY						27340	67838	77455	6193	35119	23455	69838	93293	37582	27872	9710	27872	10545	10017	378
L/S						316	808	896	72	406	271	808	1079	435	322	112	322	122	116	6
L/TION						17	43	48	4	22	14	43	57	23	17	6	17	6	6	0

Stream 016	Stream 017	Stream 018	Stream 019	Stream 020	Stream 021	Stream 022	Stream 023	Stream 024	Stream 025	Stream 026	Stream 027	Stream 028	Stream 029	Stream 030	Stream 031	Stream 032	Stream 033	Stream 034	Stream 035	Stream 036	Stream 037	Stream 038	Stream 039	Stream 040
		384	50	334	547	308	17	272	308			170	162	5	1577	3722		453	848	780	302		464	1576
		1713	800	913	1386	300	340	1526	25		275								3485	500			500	4163
		150	100	50	1796	95	5	1796	95									75	1941	34		34	2036	
	680	68	460	288	288	43	2	703	43			60	57	3	48	4					643	647	57	46
		123	123			117	6		117			48	46	2	9083			507	5294	3506	617	617	3485	5422
	3868	1190	440	4618	5018	904	440	4114	904						1544	1325	281		2304		1782	3107	3491	
1377				1377											253				1474	153			153	1474
	750	140	157	733	1272	543	884			218	325	30	28	2			9		587	45			291	578
	200			200								208	190	10			6			850			1040	76
	56	35		91													50		26	30		80	30	26
	4800	400	300	4900	4030	2800	300	1230	1100		1700				476		20		2916	960			1733	4077
	959			959											12734		394		13493					14087
	720			720											37					757			757	
	1300	6440	1300	6440		1235	65		1235			100	95	5			2425		6340				95	10208
	310		310		160	447	23		447			120	114	6					60				174	453
565	7870	80	3450	5045		1171	62	2217	1171			260	342	18	3850		540		1887	8805			9575	3638
	1400	2900	4300			245	13	4042	245						5770		848		5182	330	1400	1400	330	6275
		258		258								120	114	6	594		546			699			1134	549
	288		168	120		160	8		160			2976	2827	149	5208			34		2388			6215	509
877	3520		803	3597		740	40		740						3820				3917	3500			3685	4687
	504		256	248		243	13		243										248				17	492
	14			14								2	2					12		26	11	11	28	12
	2800	1140	690	3250		655	35		655						1140	600	795		3250			600		4700
644	127	1930	1474	1247	5031	2262	2672	1571	836	1426		476	452	24	4803		375			2326			4204	1235
	38			38											144					182			439	13
	1058	3500	1700	2858		1615	85		1615			3500	3325	175	6755			2813				8665	4884	
	1833	1764	2700	897	1764	2565	135	1764	2565			1117	1061	66	623		535		3574				5227	3187
	4440		2333	2107	4130	2300	2943	1230	2300			1110	1055	55	4060	180	80			3384	921	1101	4439	2415
	1740		760	980	1	723	38		723						5260				5260	980			2248	6050
	500	23	500	23		475	25				475	500	475	25	3023				2998				3495	26
	363	3406	3949			2850	432	687	270	2500		333	316	17	331		136		687				2911	1111
	20			20	1000	143	7	850	143						10		34		850	30			30	1027
	432	618	272	778	2320	2203	272	117	1425		778				2592		25		2709				2718	1451
	300	1000	1000	300		880	120		880										360				360	880
	720	200	120	800	300	300	18	302	200		100				200	38			300	402	440	300	200	
2710	3860	3480	2100	7930	7930	572	30	9428			572	320	304	16	2690	670		390	500		10000	10670	579	531
		1426	250	1174	1174	82	4	1340	82			1340	1273	67	1426					23			1296	149
	1416	288	100	1604	100				100								360		1256				57	1719
	2430		1050	1430	2949	2680	1269		1433		1247				1239		1242		947				380	3662
	1300	6540	1300	6540				1300				100	95	5			2625						25	10370
	3384		320	3044	3044	192	10	3182	192			360	342	18		181			2022			181	342	3032
5	34	26	32	37	19	32	31	19	29		8	22	22	21	25	8	22	7	25	28	8	11	38	40
6193	54000	39356	33402	65947	44362	29968	10335	37661	20272	4224	5472	15402	12732	670	83051	3048	12401	1879	76473	39811	15776	18824	66784	110293
72	625	455	389	763	573	347	130	434	235	49	63	155	147	8	961	35	143	22	884	461	183	218	773	1274
4	33	24	21	40	27	18	6	23	12	3	3	8	8	0	51	2	8	1	47	24	10	12	41	68



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