



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

INTERNET ARTICLE

Minister Nkwinti engage community on water projects in Giyani

14 May 2018

The Minister of Water and Sanitation, Mr Gugile Nkwinti visited Giyani on Saturday, the 12th May 2018 to engage the political and traditional leadership, as well as community member on the challenges faced by the Giyani Water projects.

The Mopani District Municipality, led by the Executive Mayor, Cllr. Nkakareng Rakgwale, was appreciative of the Minister's visit and engagement, with the Executive Mayor emphasising the need for active Inter-Governmental Relations, which appreciates the separation of powers, whilst ensuring the understanding of a single government.

At the community meeting, community members were encouraged to say what their appreciation and difficulties are so far as the delivery of this project is concerned. The issues raised included that pipes have not resulted in water availability; over a period of six years there continues to be intermittent supplies; the Mopani DM and Greater Giyani LM must share capacity according to needs.

Further, some villages are still bypassed by the pipes supplying water elsewhere; some boreholes around Blackwater need refurbishment; that the community including traditional leadership must be included in discussions; ageing infrastructure (boreholes); that there should be devolution of WSA powers from DM to LM levels; the construction of Nwamitwa Dam should also be prioritised as it will help in terms of water supply for the area.

The Minister indicated that he was on fact finding mission before he delivers the Department's budget speech in parliament later this month. "I came here for strategy and tactics; to hear the community before delivering the upcoming DWS Budget Vote. I need to have a clear way forward articulated on the Project as it is very important for government work. If need be, there will be reprioritisation as we need to turn the project around, including work on the further 38 villages still un-served", said Minister Nkwinti.

Speaking at the community meeting, the Minister appreciated the fact that the people of Giyani are willing to come with ideas that will help the project to move forward.

"The Project is high on the priority list of Parliament; the proposal for the establishment of a steering committee is sensible. Let us remember that the idea behind IDPs was that all three spheres of government will work together led by the municipality.



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“I appreciate all the inputs received here today. I will take these into account during the presentation of the DWS Budget Vote speech upcoming. The inputs will assist me to speak with confidence around matters of the Giyani Water Project”, concluded Minister Nkwinti.

Malope Matlou