

# MEDIA RELEASE



*Viva Water Pure and Clean Viva Forests Rich and Green*  
Department of Water Affairs and Forestry - Chief Directorate: Communication  
Services

## **MEDIA STATEMENT BY MINISTER RONNIE KASRILS,** **MINISTER OF WATER AFFAIRS AND FORESTRY**

**18 January 2001**

**Embargo: Immediate**

During routine testing of water in the Jukskei River on 16 January 2001, a strain of Cholera was found by the South African Medical Research Institute.

A confirmation test, of which the results were received today, proved positive for Cholera, which is present in the Jukskei River downstream from Alexandra.

The Eastern Metropolitan Council is leading a task team to combat an outbreak of Cholera in the area.

In addition to identifying high-risk areas, the task team will lead an awareness campaign informing people of the dangers of Cholera. It will also arrange for water tanks to be brought to areas identified as high-risk areas and where people do not have access to safe drinking water.

The issue requires a coordinated effort by national, provincial and local government. To this end, the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry will continue to liaise with the task team.

Those getting piped municipal water have no fear of Cholera infection.

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