



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

Dam levels continue largely unchanged

22 August 2017

Despite the recent snow and rainfall in the Eastern Cape Province, its dam levels are still under stress. A significant amount of rain is required to lift them out of their situation caused by the recent drought. This is an indication that the recent rains had not made any significant impact to improve the dam levels.

The overall average of dam levels this week is sitting at 56.6 percent, compared to last week when they were at 56.1 percent, a slight increase of 0.5 percent this week. Last year this time they were at 66.3 percent.

The Algoa Catchment System with five dams serving Nelson Mandela Metro dropped from 32.1 percent to 31.9 percent regardless of these recent rains. The Amatole Catchment System with six dams serving Buffalo City Metro improved to 63.0 percent average from 61.6 percent, a slight increase of 1.4 percent. Dams supplying water to the Butterworth communities are at an all-time low with Gcuwa Dam at 29.4%, Xilinxha dam at 0.3% and Toleni dam at 26.3%.

The Department of Water and Sanitation has insisted that the Eastern Cape communities continue saving water as dam levels continue largely unchanged, despite little rainfall in the recent past.

End

Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation

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