



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

Department removes pumping equipment of illegal water users

23 March 2017

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) in the Northern Cape today removed electricity generated water pumps used for unlawful water use in the Vaal River system.

Mining owners within the Winsorton area engaging in unlawful water use had to remove all pumps and pipes used to draw water from the Vaal River. This was as they failed to provide the Department of Water and Sanitation with proof of authorisation for water use.

Prior to the operation to remove the water pumps, the DWS issued those responsible with directives to stop all unlawful water use, remove all equipment used to draw water from the Vaal River, or provide the DWS with proof of authorisation for water use by yesterday, 22 March 2017. All of these requests drew no positive response.

The notices also afforded them the opportunity to make representation in writing within five (05) working days from the date of receipt of the notice in accordance with Section 3 of the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act, Act 3 of 2000, but no response was received.

The Directives were issued in terms of Section 53 (1) of the National Water Act (Act 36 of 1998).

END

Issued by the Department of Water and Sanitation

For more enquiries contact Amogelang Moholoeng 082 653 1682

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