



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### MEDIA STATEMENT

#### **Water is restored in the Matzikama Municipality**

**25 January 2017**

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) confirms that water, for both domestic and agricultural use, has been restored in towns in the Matzikama Municipality. This follows a failure of a main canal near Bulshoek and Clanwilliam dams last Thursday.

The Lower Olifants River Water User Association Main Canal was opened after a temporary steel lining was installed to breach the damaged section. The canal is currently flowing at around 70% of its full capacity and is constantly monitored.

The concrete work to rebuild the damaged section is in progress. The steel sections will be removed when the concrete work is completed.

Further increases in the flow will only be considered if it is safe to do so. Thus, there is currently no further threat that domestic and industrial water users will run dry.

No towns were affected by the canal failure. The Department will monitor the situation to ensure that there is enough water supply for domestic use, agriculture and industries till the canal is completely repaired.

DWS would like to encourage people to continue to adhere to water restrictions imposed by different municipalities towards saving water.

**End**

**Issued by the Department of Water & Sanitation**

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