



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

Water levels in some parts of Eastern Cape becoming a concern

26 July 2017

The winter season that is nearing its end has seen lesser rains, leading to the consistent decline in dam levels in the Eastern Cape Province.

Dams in the province are under severe strain, resulting in water to levels to deplete to lower levels, something that has had adverse impact to communities.

According to this week's dam levels report issued by the Department of Water and Sanitation, the provincial water storage capacity is at 56.6% this week, a considerable decline compared to 65.4% last year at the same time. Looking at the summary of Water Management Area (WMA) for Mzimvubu- Tsitsikamma, last year this time was at 74.6% whereas now we are at 73.9%.

The Algoa Water Supply Systems is at 32.7% this week, slightly decrease from last week at 33.3%. The Algoa Water Supply Systems is becoming a concern as it is decreasing week on week. Last year at this period, it was sitting comfortable at 72. 2%.

The Amathole Water Supply Systems has decreased from 63. 5% last week to 63.2% this week. This is a considerable decline compared to the same period last year when the system was at 82. 2%. There are dams in the area of Amathole District such as Xilinx which is almost empty with just 1.0%, as compared last week 1.4% and Gcuwa Dam standing at 50.1%. Mthatha Dam currently stands at 97.6% this week with slight decrease from last week of 98.3%.

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) calls on water users to avoid wasting water and adhere to water restrictions imposed by their respective municipalities.

End

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