



## water & sanitation

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

### MEDIA STATEMENT

#### **Water users called to control daily demand as Gauteng dam levels drop**

24 July 2017

The Integrated Vaal River System (IVRS) is continuing to decline week-on-week in the absence of rainfalls as the winter season is inching closer to its final weeks.

Although the IVRS has declined this week, most of the dams forming part of the system remain above the 50% mark. Despite the stability in the system, both household and industrial consumers are urged to exercise control on their water use.

The IVRS consists of 14 dams and serving mainly Gauteng, Sasol and Eskom is down 0.5% to 84.1%.

The Vaal Dam fell down by 0.7% from 94.6% last week to 93.9% this week. Compared to the previous year during the same time, the dam was sitting at a trifling 36.0%.

Taking a nose down this week, the Katse Dam shrunk to 34.3% from 35.6% last week. This accounts for a decline of 1.3%. During the same period last year, the Katse Dam hovered at 51.0%.

Remaining unchanged this week, the Sterkfontein Dam is currently at 91.4%. This time last year, the Sterkfontein Dam, which serves as storage was at 97.8%.

Similarly on the decline to lower levels this week is the Grootdraai Dam which is currently standing at 84.7%. This dam was sitting at 85.6% and 79.5% this week and last year respectively.

Having been at alarmingly low of 22.5% last year this time, the Bloemhof Dam took a leap up to a staggering 99.5% this week. However, this is down when compared to 100.3% last week.

Cautious of lack of rainfalls in the winter season, the Department of Water and Sanitation is calling upon Gauteng consumers to heighten awareness around their daily water demand patterns.

Unless used sparingly, the supply of water to consumers may adversely impact the security of water supply from the IVRS and therefore every effort should be made to save every drop.

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

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